

Kuwait- Israelis worse than Nazis

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah accused Israel Monday of treating Palestinians in the occupied territories worse than the Nazis treated Jews and others in World War II. He also told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) he did not expect any real result from the latest Middle East tour by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. "The Jews will talk about their treatment by the Nazis, and take this treatment as an excuse to pillage other peoples," Sheikh Sabah was quoted as saying. "But what they are doing now in the occupied territories against our Palestinian brothers — burning, killing, breaking and looting — far exceeds their charges of Nazi treatment of them." Sheikh Sabah had only an international conference attended by all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), could secure peace for the Middle East. "I do not expect the new tour of the region by Secretary Shultz to result in any practical result especially after (Israeli Premier Yitzhak) Shamir's rejection of the proposals Shultz is carrying," Sheikh Sabah said.

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King attends army exercises

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Monday attended a military training exercise, carried out by Armed Forces formations. The exercises included shooting practice using live ammunition. The King met with the participants in the exercise and urged them to continue their efforts to maintain their standard of efficiency. The exercise was attended by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb and high-ranking Armed Forces officers.

Chinese envoy holds talks in Oman

MUSCAT (R) — Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyun discussed efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war with Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Ibn Alawi Monday, the Omani Press Agency reported. A Soviet envoy, Georgi Tarazevich, vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, was due to arrive in Muscat later in the day for similar talks. Qi earlier visited Saudi Arabia, which does not have diplomatic relations with China, to deliver a message from President Li Xianmin to King Fahd.

Tunisian premier visits Libya

BEIRUT (R) — Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche arrived in Libya Monday for talks on unity among Maghreb countries, the official Libyan news agency JANA said. JANA quoted Baccouche as saying at Tripoli airport his visit was to "establish the basis for bilateral ties and unity of the Maghreb and Arab countries." He said relations between Tunisia and Libya were strengthened after Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi visited Tunis in February.

Israel TV refuses to subtitle Shultz

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel Television refused an American request to subtitle a prime-time interview with visiting U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Arabic as well as Hebrew, authoritative sources said Monday. U.S. officials asked that the interview, broadcast on the main Sunday evening Hebrew news shortly after Shultz arrived on a Middle East peace mission, be subtitled in both languages to reach Arabs living in the occupied territories.

French mediator holds talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — The head of a Paris-based pro-Arab group had talks Monday with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said. SANA said Lucien Bitterlin, president of the French-Arab Solidarity Association, discussed world and Arab issues with Sharaa, including the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories. Bitterlin, who arrived in Syria four days ago, had contacts in December and January with the radical Fatah Revolutionary Council in efforts to win the release of eight Europeans seized from their yacht in the Mediterranean late last year.

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Palestinians stage anti-Shultz strike

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza staged a general strike Monday to protest U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's visit and Israeli troops shot dead at least one Palestinian protester during sporadic clashes.

Hospital officials in Hebron said soldiers shot dead 18-year-old Hamed Abed Al Mohdi during clashes in the West Bank village of Bani Na'im, and wounded three other Palestinians.

An army spokeswoman said Mohdi was killed in a violent protest. She said an Israeli soldier and a Palestinian were wounded during clashes in the Nabulus area at the Balata refugee camp, which was placed under curfew. A senior army officer said the press was barred from the Hebron area "because all the incidents there today began when television cameras appeared."

All shops except for pharmacies were closed in Arab Jerusalem and West Bank and Gaza Strip towns and the roads of the West Bank were deserted in response to a call from underground leaders of the 16-week-old Palestinian uprising for a strike "in expression of the masses' rejection of Shultz's conspiracy."

Several clashes were reported between troops and protesters in the West Bank villages of Shuyuk and Sair near Hebron, and Mazraa Al Sharqiya and Dura Al Kar, north of Ramallah.

Elsewhere in the West Bank, Palestinians burned tyres, blocked roads and ambushed Israeli cars with stones in Al Bireh and at the Dheisheh refugee camp on the Bethlehem-Hebron road.

In their 12th leaflet, clandestine leaders of the uprising last week warned Palestinians against meeting Shultz.

Freshly-painted red slogans on

the walls of Ramallah and Al Bireh Monday proclaimed "down with Shultz solutions" "boycott Shultz" and "those who meet Shultz are traitors."

They were signed by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). U.S. officials said there were no plans for the secretary of state to meet Palestinians while in Jerusalem.

Arab Jerusalem's Palestinian press attacked Shultz Monday for endorsing Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' three "noes" — no to a Palestinian state, no to talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and no to a return to Israel's pre-1967 borders.

"The right time for peace, which Shultz spoke about yesterday quoting the Bible, requires him to draw a true scenario, in which the PLO would have a primary role on an equal basis with other parties," the nationalist daily Al Shaab said.

Anwar Al Khatib, the former governor of Jerusalem, told reporters: "Why call the PLO terrorists? Were not Shamir and (former prime minister Menachem) Begin before him the same when they blew up the King David Hotel?"

He was referring to a 1946 attack on the headquarters of British mandatory authorities in Palestine, in which Begin's terrorist underground Irgun movement killed 91 people, about half of them Britons.

Right-wing Israeli settlers also

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Syria seeks cooperation with U.S. in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — Syria has told the United States it wants to cooperate seriously in trying to bring peace to Lebanon, says a senior U.S. official visiting Israel.

The official, who asked not to be identified, spoke with reporters Sunday about Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy's talks in Damascus over the past two days with Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam.

He said the talks, which lasted seven hours, fostered some proposals for reforming the Lebanese constitution with the aim of ending the 13-year-old civil war.

Syria sent troops into Beirut in February 1982 to try to end the fighting among rival factions.

But the burden of that commitment and the prospect of Lebanese presidential elections later this year prompted Syria to seek U.S. support in encouraging constitutional reforms that could bring peace to

the country, the official said. He said the aim would be for Syria and the United States to agree on broad principles for constitutional reform that could then be written into law. The Syrians view the United States as having taken the place of France and Britain as an influential force in Lebanese affairs, the official said.

For more than a year, the Lebanese factions have not talked with each other about political reforms but they have been talking separately with Syria and the United States.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who arrived in Israel Sunday night, is to visit Syrian President Hafez Al Assad later in the week and discuss the American initiative for Middle East peace.

Murphy discussed Lebanon with Khaddam in advance of Shultz's visit to Syria so that Shultz's talks could focus specifically on the Middle East peace plan, the U.S. official said.



The latest addition to the Israeli equipment against Palestinian protesters is a command vehicle equipped with smoke grenades, tear-gas launchers, rubber-bullet guns and marble shooters

Shultz wants clear Israeli reply to American peace plan

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz sought a clear answer from Israeli leaders Monday to his Middle East peace initiative, but did not receive one.

Shultz expressed satisfaction after talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, telling reporters he emphasized the role of an international peace conference as a framework for direct Arab-Israeli talks.

An aide to Shamir told reporters: "We aren't singled out to give the first answer and I don't think we have to give the first answer. We don't have to throw it all out because of the idea of an international conference."

The secretary of state is due to visit Jordan and Syria Tuesday before returning to Israel. Shultz told Israel Television after his arrival Sunday he expected Israel and the Arabs to respond this week to his plan for a conference leading to direct talks on Palestinian "self-rule" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Shamir opposes the U.S. plan, endorsed by Peres, but has yet to deliver the response of his divided government. Neither has pushed for a cabinet vote for fear Israel would be accused of sabotaging the peace plan of its closest ally.

Asked by reporters if the plan would die for lack of support, Peres said: "This initiative has been pronounced dead so many times that to kill it again is nothing new."

"We have to ask ourselves again seriously if we want a peace process that is alive and well in the Middle East. That is the question."

Shamir rejects an international conference — attended by the United States, Britain, China, France and the Soviet Union —

for fear it would force Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories.

He dismisses American assurances the conference would lack powers to coerce or veto agreements.

Shultz launched the plan two months ago amid unprecedented Palestinian protests in the West Bank and Gaza. At least 136 Palestinians and an Israeli soldier have been killed in the 16-week-old uprising.

On Monday, Palestinians staged a general strike to protest against Shultz's visit to Israel and troops shot dead at least one protester during sporadic clashes. In an interview Sunday with Israeli journalists, Shultz insisted Said and Abu Lughod, who are American professors, are not members of the PLO.

"Frankly, I am shocked that anybody should think I shouldn't talk to Americans like that," Shultz said.

Palestinians expressed support for a PLO ban on meeting with Shultz during his visit and said the U.S. initiative would fail unless the PLO were included in negotiations.

Shultz met Shamir and Peres separately, each for about two hours. After meeting Shamir, Shultz said: "I was very pleased that we addressed mostly the direct (Arab-Israeli) negotiations that we would like to see take place and how in our initiative they might be structured."

"I was really delighted with the conversation," Shultz said. Israeli officials said that in both meetings, Shultz focused for the first time in five weeks of Middle East diplomacy on the substance of peace talks rather than the international conference procedure.

Shamir told reporters: "We had a very good and basic discussion. We have analysed and discussed very essential issues. We have decided to continue with it in the next few days."

Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner said the prime minister repeated his criticism of Shultz's meeting in Washington 10 days ago with two American members of the Palestine National Council.

Shamir regarded the meeting with Professors Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu Lughod as a breach of a 1975 U.S. commitment to Israel not to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"If Mr. Shultz wants to meet, the address of the Palestinian people is well known. It is the PLO," Hanna Siniora, editor of the Palestinian daily Al Fajr, said in an interview.

Mustafa Natshe, the former mayor of Hebron, said a Palestinian delegation would have to include PLO-nominated members from both within the occupied territories and outside. "We are with the decision of the PLO," he said.

Peres is convinced

After dining with Shultz Sunday night, Peres told Israel Radio: "I think the man is convinced in his mission. He knows the alternatives are very difficult. He will make the greatest effort to succeed."

Shultz told Israel Television Sunday: "I think many people who have opposed this international conference have described it in a way that's different from what we proposed."

"They describe a conference that has authority, and will be the peace where people decide that your borders have to be here, there or elsewhere."

(Continued on page 5)

Mideast conference lacks agreement

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Monday there was too much disagreement, among the parties directly concerned and within the Security Council, to convene an international Middle East peace conference. But in a reference to the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, he said events there had dramatically highlighted the urgent need for "the negotiation, in a manner acceptable to all the parties directly concerned, of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict." Perez de Cuellar's comments were contained in a written report to the General Assembly in response to a resolution it adopted last December repeating calls dating back to 1983 for a U.N.-sponsored Middle East peace conference. The report included the text of replies he received from the parties and from the Security Council president. The responses of Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the PLO favoured the type of conference called for by the assembly. Israel and "one member of the council" — a clear reference to the United States — rejected that format and focused on direct negotiations between Israel and the Arabs, free of imposed solutions.

'War of cities' explodes anew

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran hammered Iraq's vital oil centres with missiles and fighter-bombers Monday to avenge attacks on its major refineries in which it said at least 22 people were killed and 77 wounded.

Iraq vowed to level Iranian cities and fired a long-range Al Hussein missile into Isfahan as a 2½-day truce in the five-week-old "war of the cities" went up in flames.

Iran also said its artillery bombarded Iraqi defences in the Kurdistan mountains of northeast Iraq, where Revolutionary Guards are locked in fierce battle with Iraqi forces in a large area around the strategic Lake Darbandikhan.

The upsurge of fighting in the Gulf war dimmed prospects of a breakthrough in United Nations efforts to engineer a cease-fire in line with the Security Council's July 20 resolution. U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was scheduled to meet high-ranking Iranian and Iraqi envoys in New York later this week.

But there appeared to be few grounds for optimism with the hostilities expected to escalate as Iraq reeled from Iran's mushrooming offensive in Kurdistan and Tehran promising more "painful blows."

Iraq threatened Monday to level Iran's cities in retaliation. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Revolutionary Guards fired one long-range missile at Kirkuk's oil refinery Monday.

It said the missile strike was in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on oil refineries in the northwestern city of Tabriz and the central city of Isfahan Sunday.

The agency reported that 22 civilians were killed and 77 wounded in Tabriz. There was no report of casualties Sunday in Isfahan, Persia's capital in the 16th century.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA), also monitored in Cyprus, said the missile exploded in a residential neighbourhood in Kirkuk, killing or wounding many civilians.

The city, which has a population of around 200,000, has been repeatedly hit by Iranian missiles in the last two weeks.

The heavily guarded Kirkuk fields produce 1.5 million barrels of oil a day, more than half Iraq's output which is vital to Baghdad's war effort.

INA reported that the Iraqi army fired a missile into Isfahan at 6.40 p.m. (1440 GMT). It was the 12th missile the Iraqis said they have fired into that city since Feb. 29.

Altogether, both sides have unleashed more than 250 missiles into each other's population centres in that period. Iran has reported more than 1,150 civilians killed and 4,000 wounded. Iraq has given no specific figures, but reported hundreds of casualties.

INA said that Iranian fighter-bombers twice attacked a big petrochemical complex in the battered southern port city of Basra Monday. A military communiqué said the jets returned to their bases.

INA quoted an unidentified military spokesman in Baghdad as warning: "Because Iran insists on committing more crimes, we shall pound Iranian cities with missiles and other means until they are destroyed."

Iran had blamed Iraq for the latest resurgence of the "war of the cities" which began Feb. 29. The Iranians are likely to mount more operations to keep the Iraqis off balance and for propaganda reasons in the run-up to elections for the 270-seat Majlis, or parliament, scheduled for Friday.

British MPs slam Israel

AMMAN (R) — Three British opposition members of parliament said Monday they had seen evidence of systematic Israeli brutality during a five-day visit to the occupied territories.

"The violence, the beating of men, women and children, the shooting to wound and to kill, the brutality is everywhere — and the Palestinian uprising is everywhere," said Clare Short.

Short, Marjorie Mowlam and Maria Fyfe, all of the Labour Party, spoke after a tour of the West Bank and Gaza Strip made at the invitation of the Arab League.

Mowlam said the group planned to see British Minister of State at the Foreign Office David Mellor, Labour shadow foreign secretary Gerald Kaufman and the Israeli ambassador after their return to London Tuesday.

"We will be saying loud and clear that the people there (in the occupied lands) consider the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) their sole, legitimate representative," she said. "They want peace, but they must have an independent Palestinian state and nothing less will do."

The three also intend to appeal to the Jewish community in Britain and arrange a speaking tour in the United States.

"We want the hypocrisy of the Israeli state to be known," Mowlam said. "They are talking about terrorism when they are acting as terrorists in the lands under their control."

Fyfe said they saw "dreadful" injuries to young boys in hospital. "It's no wonder they (the Israelis) want to keep the press out of the territories," she said.

S. Arabia may allow U.S. to inspect its missiles

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Arabia will let American experts inspect medium-range missiles acquired from China if Washington guarantees Israel will not attack them, an Arab diplomat said Monday.

"I believe Saudi Arabia will allow inspection in return for a U.S. guarantee, but will not agree to withdraw the missiles," said the diplomat, who Reuter said was usually well-informed on Saudi policy.

Reuters quoted the diplomat as saying the deal would be agreed during U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's current Middle East peace trip. Shultz is expected to visit Riyadh Thursday.

Saudi leaders were very concerned about a possible Israeli pre-emptive strike against the Chinese ground-to-ground rockets, which can carry nuclear warheads, the diplomat said.

He said giving the United States inspection rights was aimed at limiting damage to Saudi-U.S. relations caused by Saudi Arabia's secret purchase of the CSS-2 missiles, which could reach Iran or Israel.

United States to stay as they were," the diplomat said.

He said an inspection accord would confirm an assurance against Israeli attack given by Washington after Israeli officials said they could not tolerate the presence of such arms in Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia and China have said the missiles are for defence only and would not be armed with nuclear warheads.

China denies Israel deal

China Monday denied reports it had reached a secret arms deal with Israel to buy advanced missile warheads and other new weaponry.

"Such news is utterly groundless," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said in the one-sentence statement. She declined to elaborate.

Reports in the Sunday Times of London and Hong Kong's Sunday Morning Post said a team of five Israeli military scientists went to Peking in November and negotiated a deal to sell China

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Regional talks highlight effects of recession on workers migration

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day round table regional meeting opened in Amman Monday, to discuss questions related to movement and employment of workers and the effects of world economic recession on countries exporting or importing workers.

The meeting organised by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), will discuss working papers dealing with the effect of workers migration in general, matters related to social security for workers, repatriation problems, questions related to permits, employment and the income earned by those workers in other countries.

Labour Minister Rashid Ureikat, who opened the sessions on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, said that the meeting was of vital importance in view of the current decline

in the employment of workers by other countries and employment problems created in Arab and Asian countries, as a direct result of the recession.

The recent developments in labour markets have had their negative influence on worker-exporter countries, and increased the challenge for officials, policy makers and planners in the labour fields, the minister noted.

He said that ILO programmes to help developing countries have been adversely affected since the early 1980s as a result of the world economic recession, "but the ILO has been intent on solving the problem through round

table meetings organised at regional levels, and through consultations and cooperation with concerned parties."

"Jordan has a unique experience in the field of exporting and importing workers, and is ready to offer its experience for the benefit of others, Ureikat said.

"Jordan is also ready to cooperate with the ILO and other organisations to find the best results that can contribute to solving problems related to migration of workers," Ureikat stressed.

The meeting was opened with a speech by ILO Assistant Director General Ghaleb Barakat, who said that the ILO focuses its attention on solving workers' problem in developing countries.

Delegates taking part in the meeting came from India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Indonesia, Thailand, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Tunisia and Jordan.

ers through training."

Referring to the Gulf region, he said, it is currently employing nearly five million workers from Arab and Asian countries, constituting nearly half the work force of the Gulf countries as a whole, largely because Gulf states enjoy high income but have low-population density.

"This meeting has been called to allow delegates to exchange views and to consult on best measures to be taken to deal with problems encountered by the labour markets and to explore ways where the ILO can be of help in this matter," Barakat said.

Delegates taking part in the meeting came from India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Indonesia, Thailand, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Tunisia and Jordan.

'AIDS introduced in Arab World from outside'

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Delegates to the 13th session of the Arab Health Ministers Council Monday stressed that all cases of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) which appeared in the Arab World were introduced from outside the region, and there was not a single case originating in any Arab country.

The delegates emphasised the need for a pan-Arab information network on blood transfusion, and called for more efforts to be made in the field of spreading awareness among the public, concerning protection against the killer disease.

They also called for more campaigns to spread awareness on the protection of people from radiation, and more training courses for Arab doctors on ways to protect the public health from diseases.

At the outset of the session, the delegates endorsed a proposal calling on the Arab Council of Medical Specialisation to introduce new streams in paediatrics, internal diseases, and community medicine.

meetings, Syrian Health Minister Mohammad Shatti said that the delegates were unanimous on extending medical assistance to the Palestinian people, and on establishing the projected Arab Hospital of Jerusalem to provide medical services to the Arab population under Israeli rule.

Shatti said Syria will continue to offer medical assistance to the Palestinian people.

The delegates discussed financial allocations and in-kind assistance to support the Palestinians who are now revolting against the Israeli occupation, the minister said, but gave no other details on the subject.

Shatti said that Syria and Jordan were maintaining cooperation in health-related matters and a Syrian delegation will be coming to Jordan soon to meet specialists at the Jordanian Nuclear Medical Centre in Amman at the invitation of the Jordanian Health Ministry.

Jordan and Syria also offer each other hospital treatment for patients from either country, especially in dealing with eye ailments and heart diseases, Shatti noted.

He said the two countries cooperate in the field of pharmaceutical industry and the production and distribution of medicine.

Reuter adds: On Sunday, Lebanon, Djibouti and the Palestine Red Crescent (PRC) asked the meeting in Amman for help in treating their sick amid war, famine and riots.

Fathi Arafat, head of the Cairo-based PRC, said he asked the Council of Arab Health Ministers for immediate aid for Palestinians hurt in the 16-week uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

Arafat, a brother of Palestine

Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat, said the PRC needed ambulances, medical supplies and doctors.

Lebanon asked council members for medicine to fight tuberculosis and cancer and Djibouti requested food, water tanks and well-drilling equipment to aid famine victims.

"The almost 13-year-old war in Lebanon has made it hard for us to treat the increasing number of patients without help from our Arab brethren," Lebanese Ambassador to Jordan Pierre Ziadeh said in a statement.

Test-tube twin boys born at Al Bashir Hospital

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A team of gynecologists at Al Bashir Hospital performed a Caesarean section on a 27-year-old Jordanian woman who gave birth to twin test-tube baby boys Monday.

One of the gynecologists who performed the operation told the Jordan Times that the "in vitro

fertilisation was not performed at Al Bashir Hospital, the woman was admitted to Al Bashir Hospital one week ago because she was carrying twins."

According to the gynecologist, the boys and the mother are in a healthy condition and the children's weights are 2.75 kilograms and 2.25 kilograms respectively.

Khasawneh opens training course on scientific research in information field

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Information Monday opened a 10-day training course on preparing and conducting scientific research programmes in informational fields.

The course, which is attended by 30 officials from the Ministry of Information's various departments and six students from Yarmouk University, has been organised by the ministry's Developmental Information and Training Department (DITD).

Information Minister Hani

Khasawneh addressed the opening session, underlining the process of research as a means of handling major problems confronting Jordanians in all fields of life.

"The challenges of the modern age require such scientific research and analysis and logic, to help reach proper solutions in economic and social sectors," the minister added.

DITD Director Issa Jahmani addressed the participants, reviewing the aims and objectives

of the course which, he said, will improve their efficiency and skill in handling information covering economic and social issues.

The participants will hear lectures on the effect of information media on combating crime and pollution, promoting the spread of culture, ways of boosting the national economy and ensuring food security among other subjects.

They will also tour a number of research centres in Jordanian organisations.

Dakhqan visits Karak

KARAK (Petra) — Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan Monday paid a visit to Karak governorate during which he met with the Karak governor and the mayor and inspected a number of water stations in the governorate.

The minister stressed the ministry's policy aimed at unifying the efforts of all government organisations responsible for water in the Kingdom.

Dakhqan also announced that the ministry will start linking houses in Karak city with a new sewerage network as of the end of this month.

The ministry will give priority during this year to projects concerned with providing drinking water to a number of villages in the governorate, the minister said.

Zawaideh leaves for talks in New Delhi

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Public Works and Housing, Shafiq Zawaideh, left Amman Sunday to attend the eleventh session of the United Nations' Human Settlements Committee which is due to be held on April 6 to 12 in New Delhi.

Zawaideh, who will head the Jordanian delegation to the meeting, will participate in the discussion of two main topics; the activities concerning the year for housing the homeless and world strategy for housing until the year 2000.

Pakistani war college delegation visits RSS

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting delegation from the Pakistan War College Monday called at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and met with its vice president and other officials who briefed them on the RSS's development and activities.

The delegation members later

toured the different sections of the society and inspected the solar energy unit, the building research centre, and were briefed on their programmes.

The visitors also watched a documentary film featuring the development of the RSS since its establishment in 1970.

Dudin meets Finnish team

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A Finnish press delegation Monday met with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin for a briefing on the Middle East situation.

Dudin spoke about the sufferings of the Palestinian people over the past 20 years as a result of the Israeli occupation, and its intransigence with regards to permanent solutions and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

Dudin also spoke about the pressure being exerted on the Palestinians by Israel to force them to abandon their homeland.

The current uprising in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip the minister said was an expansionist plan.

The delegation, invited by Jordan, will meet with Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh Tuesday and will tour different archaeological sites, refugee camps and places of interest in the Kingdom.

The delegation which groups five representatives of major newspapers in Finland was invited by the Ministry of Tourism, according to a ministry official. She told the Jordan Times that visits to Jordan by Finnish delegations representing various sectors came as a direct result of the successful visit made to Finland

by His Majesty King Hussein. Another successful outcome was the arrangement for Finnish tourist groups to visit Aqaba and other attractions in the country, the official said.

She said that as of the end of 1988 there will be two weekly chartered flights from Helsinki to Aqaba bringing in tourists to Jordan. At present tourists are coming on board the Royal Jordanian aircraft, which are operating weekly flights between the two countries.

The delegation members who arrived here last Sunday will end their visits on Saturday, according to the official.

Dudin meets U.S. senator

Also Monday, Dudin conferred with a U.S. Senator Arlen Specter and his accompanying delegation, who are currently on a tour of the Middle East region.

Dudin spoke on the current uprising in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and Israel's arbitrary measures against the Arab population.

Later, the senator and his delegation called at the Palestinian refugee camp of Baqa'a and inspected services offered to the residents by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) and the Jordanian government.

Hmoud in Syria for agricultural talks

DAMASCUS (Petra, J.T.) — Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud arrived in Damascus Monday at the head of an official delegation for a visit to Syria expected to last several days.

In a statement upon arrival Hmoud said that his talks with his Syrian counterpart Mohammad Ghabash will focus on means of promoting Jordanian-Syrian agricultural cooperation.

"The talks are considered complementary to the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee discussions and aim at achieving agricultural integration between Jordan and Syria," Hmoud said.

The minister and the Jordanian

delegation will hold talks with officials and tour a number of agricultural projects.

Hmoud is accompanied by the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) Director-General Ghazi Abu Hassan and a number of ministry officials.

On the eve of his departure to Syria the minister was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that the Jordanian markets will again witness a bountiful supply of agricultural crops and fruit in two weeks time.

He said that crops will be coming to the markets from the Jordan Valley and the rainfed regions, close to the valley.

The recent rainy weather and the cold spell that affected Jordan over the past month, damaged some types of winter crops which resulted in the decline of production and the disappearance of certain types of crops from the markets, the minister said.

He said that the weather conditions were also responsible for a delay in planting summer crops in the higher regions of the country.

"This is a transitional period between winter and summer, during which Jordan normally faces a shortage of certain types of crops," the minister noted.

He said that most of the crops on the markets are grown in Jordan.

Pharmacists conference to open Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Fourth Jordanian pharmacists conference will open in Amman on Wednesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, according to an official announcement Monday.

The announcement was made by Jordan Pharmacists Association (JPA) President Taiseer Al Himsi at a press conference during which he gave details on the

coming meeting, which will discuss 34 papers summing up research work at the pharmacy faculties of the University of Jordan, the Jordan University of Science and Technology and by Jordanian pharmaceutical companies.

Himsi said that nearly 500 pharmacists, who are to take part in the two-day meeting, will hear addresses by professors from

Jordanian universities, the Health Ministry and drug manufacturers in Jordan, as well as an Iraqi researcher.

Himsi paid tribute to the steadfastness of the Palestinian pharmacists in the occupied Arab territory and said, they are helping to alleviate Palestinian people's sufferings despite their meagre means.

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15:30 Korean
15:50 Programme review
15:55 Children's programmes
16:05 In Search of the Past
16:30 Spirit Bay
17:00 Local programme
17:30 Basketball
18:00 Message from Oman
19:10 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Cultural seminar
22:00 Varieties programme
22:30 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Programme contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 des chiffres et des lettres
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties: Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 No place like Home
21:10 Stand by — Light Camera Action!
22:00 News in English
22:30 Murder Men, Poor Man
23:10 Rich Man, Poor Man

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7:30

Light Music

7:30 Newsdesk

8:00 Morning Show

8:30 News Summary

9:00 Just a Minute

9:30 Good Old Days

10:00 News Summary

10:30 30 Minute Theatre

11:00 News Summary

11:30 Old Favourites

12:00 Pop Talk

12:30 Pop Session

13:00 News Summary

13:30 Special English News & Features

14:00 News Summary

14:30 Special English News & Features

15:00 News Summary

15:30 Pop Talk

16:00 News Summary

16:30 Special English News & Features

17:00 News Summary

17:30 Special English News & Features

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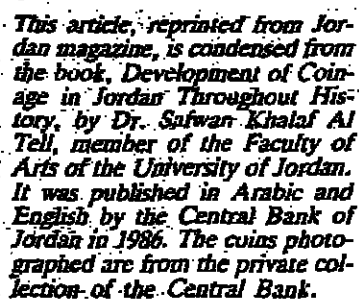
59:30 Special English News & Features

60:00 News Summary

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Development of coinage in Jordan throughout history

By Dr. Safwan Khalaf Al Tell

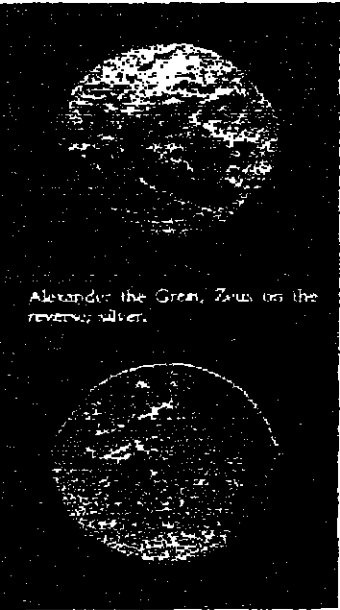


This article, reprinted from Jordan magazine, is condensed from the book, *Development of Coinage in Jordan Throughout History*, by Dr. Safwan Khalaf Al Tell, member of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Jordan. It was published in Arabic and English by the Central Bank of Jordan in 1986. The coins photographed are from the private collection of the Central Bank.

HISTORIANS and numismatists share the belief that it is possible to trace the history of governments and regions through a study of their coinage. In Jordan, the coins used throughout the various periods of its history serve as vivid signposts marking the course of a political, economic and cultural development that extends more than 2,000 years into the past.

Ever since they were invented by the Greeks, coins have been utilised to organise economic relationships and define the principle of profit and loss in societies. The state, then, as now, established its own financial system, issued its own coinage and, thus, was directly associated with its material, shape, size, weight, value and distribution. The earliest coins were nothing more than ingots of "pale gold," silver or copper, irregular in weight and indefinite in value. At a later stage, with the introduction of true coinage in Greece, stamps were added to indicate the authority which issued the coin and defined its value. These coins were made of electrum — a natural amalgam of gold and silver — to which was affixed "the seal of the king," to guarantee both the metal's quality and its weight. The method of affixing the seal was simple: The metal, placed over an intaglio of the royal emblem, was hammered to receive a punch impression on one side and a relief design on the other.

In the sixth century B.C., the gold alloy was successfully separated from the silver and the coin acquired a circular shape. It also became thicker and heavier and showed a different image on each side. During the fourth century B.C., a number of Greek cities agreed to issue a common currency, instead of each issuing its own, which ultimately led to uniformity in the currencies. Thus, Greek coins became well-known in the Near East and in their abundant circulation rivalled those of Persia.

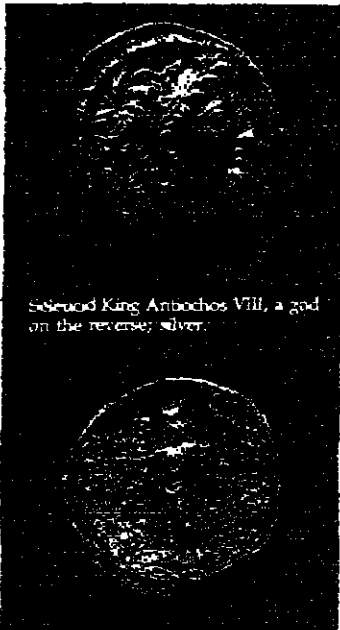


In studying the wide variety of coinage found in the land of Jordan, it is helpful to have some understanding of the diverse powers that imposed their authority on the Near East. Throughout the millennia since the fourth century B.C., the region was ruled directly or indirectly by more than 250 different kings, emperors, caliphs, princes, sultans and governors, each of whom issued new coinage. Within its geographical context, Jordan's history is closely linked to that of the Arab east as a whole, and the ancient coins that have been found in Jordan are similar to those found in the lands that surround it.

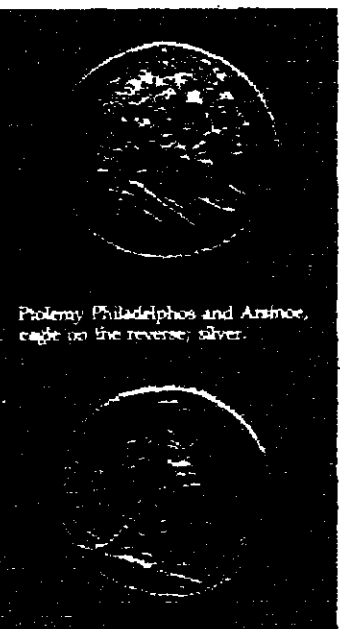
Alexander the Great
Because of its strategic location on one of the great crossroads of the world, Jordan through the ages was subjected to one conquest after another, as powerful empires invaded the area in an unceasing struggle for domination of the Mediterranean basin. For many centuries during biblical times, kingdoms rose and fell, hegemony changed hands, and the entire region remained in a state of flux... until the arrival of Alexander the Great.

In 331 B.C., Alexander's armies swept swiftly through the entire Near East and introduced Hellenistic culture and its coinage to the region. This historic Greek expansion removed the barriers between Mesopotamia and Persia on the one hand and the Mediterranean on the other, which allowed the resources of the two civilisations to intermingle. The size of the empire also led to the union of autonomous cities into small states, which were given authority over the issuing of coins. As a result, while the minting of coins increased, they became uniform in style. The various coins of this period, for instance, bear the portraits of kings, along with religious symbols and the names of the city mints in Greek.

Upon the death of Alexander in 323 B.C., his two generals, Ptolemy and Seleucus, divided the Greek state between them. Jordan, Palestine and Egypt fell to Ptolemy, who declared himself king and struck gold coins bearing his image and that of his wife. In Syria, Seleucus also proclaimed his monarchy. Among the gold and silver coins issued by the long succession of Seleucid kings (from 312 to 69 B.C.) are some of remarkable beauty, bearing the royal portrait on one side and the image of a god on the other.



A similar succession of Ptolemaic monarchs (from 323 to 30 B.C.) produced a number of coins that are unique and of historical significance. They were the first coins to be regularly struck in Egypt in large numbers and in different metals, including gold, silver and copper. Silver coins with their multiples were the basis of the Ptolemaic monetary system, but many gold coins of fine quality also were issued. Gold and silver currency was used for international trade, while the circulation of bronze coins filled the public's need for small change. Among the important Ptolemaic mints were those of Alexandria, Sidon, Tyre, Acre, Jaffa, Gaza and Amman.



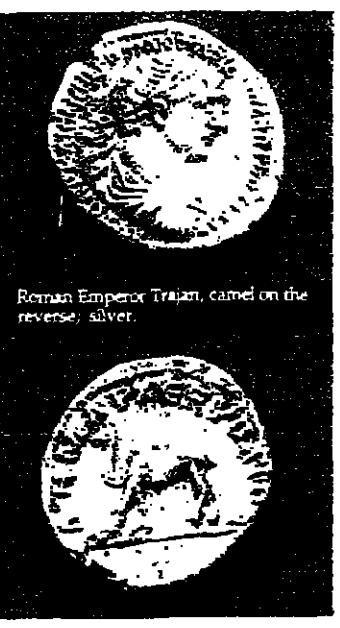
On the first coins of his reign, Ptolemy I featured the bust of Alexander. Later on, he substituted his own image and, on the reverse side of the coin, put Alexander, or either an elephant-drawn cart or eagle on a thunderbolt. On some of the coins issued by the second king, Ptolemy Philadelphos, the bust of his wife Arsinoe appears. Occasionally, the profiles of husband and wife are shown together with the words, "the two lovers." The last Ptolemaic ruler, Cleopatra VII, issued silver and bronze coins bearing her image alongside that of her son Ptolemy XIV on one side, and a cornucopia or eagle on the other.

Nabataean coinage
During the second century B.C., meanwhile, the Arab Nabataeans had moved from the Arabian Peninsula into southern Jordan. Establishing Petra as the capital of their new kingdom, they succeeded by 83 B.C. in extending their political borders and cultural influence as far north as Damascus, despite repeated Roman attempts at occupation. The first coins issued by the Nabataeans were in silver and copper and similar to Greek coins. Later, Obadas II (62-47 B.C.) introduced a new coin shape and also, for the first time, inscriptions in Nabataean. Images of the king or queen or both continued to be featured on the face of the coins, with the reverse showing one symbol or another — a cornucopia or eagle, a god or goddess, or the palm of a hand.

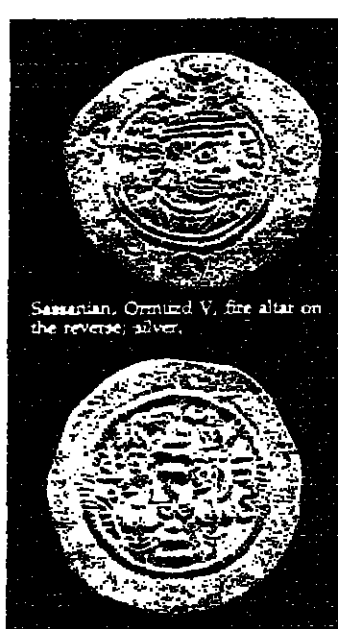


Among the most famous Nabataean kings were Rebel II and Aretas IV, their coins bear the phrase, "King of the Nabataeans whom his people love." In 63 B.C., with Pompey's conquest of Syria, Palestine and Jordan, Rome gained a sizeable empire in the Near East. The Nabataean kingdom, however, remained in control of its territories for almost another 150 years — until 106 A.D., when Trajan succeeded in penetrating its mountain stronghold at Petra. Of the coins issued by Trajan, after his annexation of the Nabataean kingdom to the newly created Provincia Arabia, is one with the unusual but fitting image of a camel.

One of the most interesting coinage periods in Jordan was the first century B.C. It was during this period that Pompey formed the Decapolis, a league of ten autonomous cities granted special status in the political, economic and cultural spheres. A number of these cities were situated in Jordan, especially in the north, among them Gadara (Umm Qais), Arabilla (Irbid), Pella (Tabaqat Fahl), Gerasa (Jerash) and Philadelphia (Amman). This geographical and political structuring of the Decapolis emphasises the Roman desire to separate the Syrian province from Palestine and the Nabataean kingdom to the south.



The actual issue of coins during the Roman period was under the direction of special magistrates, who controlled the state supplies of metal in bar form. The Roman Senate held authority over the issue of copper and bronze coins, as indicated by the letters S.C. (*Senatus Consulto*), while the emperor held control over the issue of gold and silver coins. All coins, however, usually bore the portrait of the emperor on the obverse and the city-goddess on

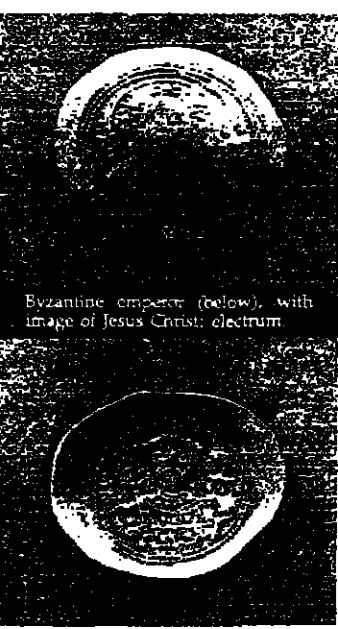


the reverse. Also represented were religious, economic and cultural symbols.

Roman monopoly
In the Near East, where the multitude of states and cities possessed a long tradition of issuing coins, imperial Rome contented itself with maintaining a monopoly over coinage in precious metals (gold and silver) and with defining rates of exchange between the imperial coinage and the main currencies in the east. It granted a number of the more important cities — such as *Aelia Capitolina* (Jerusalem), Damascus and *Byzantium* (Beirut) — the right to administer their own affairs, including the issuance of bronze coins bearing an abbreviated form of the city name.

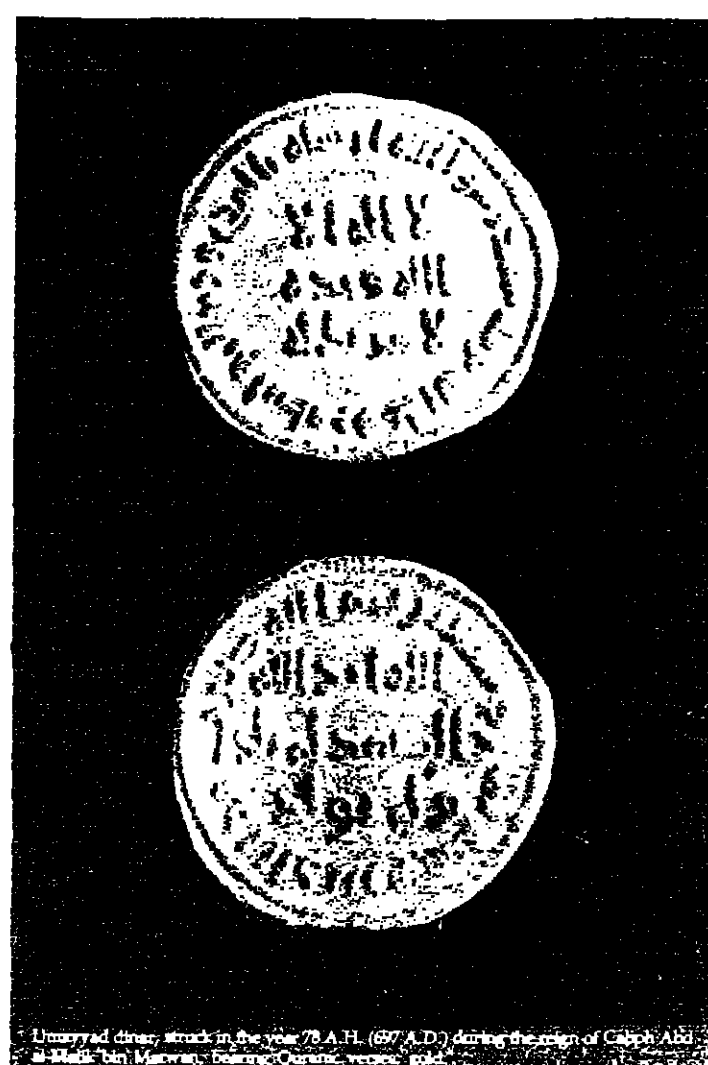
The Romans also transcended the usual conventions in coinage and introduced inscriptions of political, religious and social significance, such as harmony, faith, liberty, colony, fertility. Unlike Hellenistic coins, which seldom changed in design, the Roman coins reveal innovation and variety. While the image and name of the reigning emperor are a standard feature on the coin face, many different images appear on the reverse: Religious symbols (gods or temples), or the emblems of cities (walls, towers, ships, fish, birds or animals). These provide a rich source of information on the political, religious and social characteristics of the cities that minted the coins.

Three centuries later, after a succession of some 45 emperors who all issued coins bearing their image, the Roman empire was split. In 324, the Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity and assumed control of the Near East. He moved from Rome to Constantinople, where he established his Byzantine capital, and proceeded to issue new coins.



The Byzantine coins, which were minted in gold, silver and copper, circulated throughout the empire up until the seventh century and the advent of Islam. Their markings, in line with the religion of the new state, were perceptibly Christian. The imagery is distinctively expressive in style and decorative detail. The emperors are shown bearing religious emblems, such as the cross, and the robes they wear are appropriately embellished to reflect their royal status.

A new power emerges
In the seventh century, a new force emerged from the Arabian Peninsula. The Prophet Muhammad had united the Arabs under the banner of Islam and the historic expansion of the world's third monotheistic religion had begun. In 636, after Muslim forces defeated the Byzantines in



the battle of Yarmouk, Jordan, Syria and Palestine came under Arab control.

Islam was now the major power in the Near East, and the entire region entered a period of dramatic change, not only in religion, but politically and culturally as well. The first rulers of the new Islamic State were the Umayyads, who in 661 established their capital in Damascus. In the mid-eighth century, they were overthrown by the Abbassids, who transferred the Muslim seat of government to Baghdad. Eventually, internal divisions within the Abbasid caliphate led to a period of political upheaval and the emergence of a number of smaller dynasties and principalities in various parts of the Islamic world.

Under Islam, the Arab World developed into a unified entity, with its own distinctive political, cultural and economic system. Its coinage, in style and epigraphic content, became properly Arabic and Islamic; and, except for some minor modifications, this Islamic coin-type has remained constant up to the present.

Coinage issued under the Umayyad and Abbasid caliphates was basically a continuation of the ancient coin types that had circulated in the Arabian Peninsula and Syria before Islam. The Arabs introduced no changes in the monetary system; they continued the old minting techniques and issued coins with specific weights in gold, silver and copper, which were circular in shape and bore dates, legends and verses from the Holy Koran.

The three monetary units of Islamic coinage were the *dinar* (in gold), the *dirham* (in silver) and the *fuls* (in copper or bronze). The first coins, while modelled after earlier Arab and Byzantine types, show specific changes of an Arabising nature. New religious inscriptions or other epigraphic markings appear; words such as *baraka* (blessing), *tayyib* (good) and *wasf* (full weight) are included; the caliph's name and the date of the mint are shown — all engraved in Arabic. The most innovative departure from Byzantine style is the portrayal of the caliph as a sword-girded, standing figure.

Definitive Arabisation of style, however, was achieved under the reign of Umayyad Caliph Abd al-Malik bin Marwan in 697. His great coin reform resulted in the complete suppression of iconographic representations and the emergence of purely epigraphic coins bearing Koranic verses and historical legends. The inscriptions were arranged as follows: Field of one side: the *Shahada* (There is no God but God alone: He has no partner). Around the edge: Part of Koran IX:33 (Muhammad is the Apostle of God whom He sent with the direction and true religion that he may cause it to appear superior to every other religion).

Field of the other side: Koran CXII (God is one; God is the eternal; He begets not, nor is He begotten). Around the edge: In

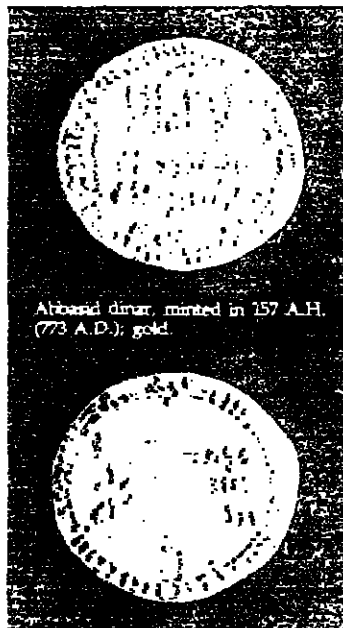
the name of God; this *dinar* was struck in the year...

The weight standard of the gold *dinar*, as established by Abd al-Malik, was 4.25 grammes, issued in three denominations: The *dinar*, the half-*dinar* (*nisf*) and the third-*dinar* (*thuluth*). The silver *dirham*, which bore the same legends as those of the *dinar*, weighed 2.97 grammes.

The purely epigraphic copper coins appeared later and were not uniform in size, weight or markings. All, however, bore a religious inscription and sometimes also the mint, date and name of the issuing authority. Copper coins were used in petty commercial transactions and fluctuated from 2 to 5 grammes in weight. The rate of exchange between copper and silver coins, although legally established at 48 to 1, also fluctuated.

The Abbasid dynasty (749-1258) made no significant changes in Islamic coinage. The shape, weight and epigraphic content remained the same and the legends continued to be written in simple Arabic Kufic characters. In the ninth and tenth centuries, however, when the independent dynasties emerged, they issued new coins which varied in epigraphic content.

The presence of the Crusaders during the 11th and 12th centuries, while of historical import, had no influence on the pattern of coinage in the Near East. More



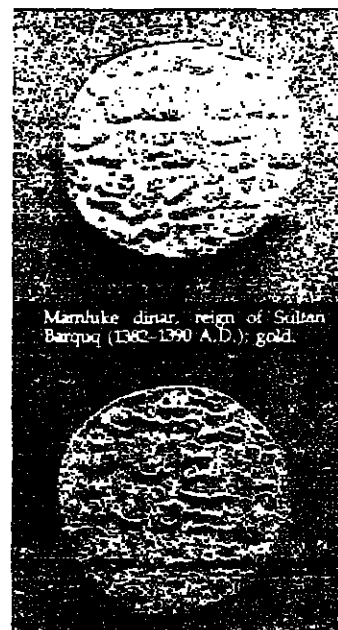
in relation to gold, with the *piaster* as the basic monetary unit. Piasters in denominations of 2, 5 and 10 were minted in silver and the 25, 50, 100, 250 and 500 piasters in gold. The weight of the 25-piaster piece was one gramme of gold and the 500-piaster coin was 36 grammes, all with a 91.6 per cent standard of fineness.

Arab independence
The Arab people, meanwhile, had launched their struggle for freedom from the Ottomans. Unifying their ranks under the Arab National Movement, they chose the Grand Sharif Al-Hussein bin Ali, the Hashemite guardian of the two holy cities of Mecca and Medina, as their leader. And on June 6, 1916, Sharif Al-Hussein proclaimed the Great Arab Revolt against the Ottomans.

In the mid-13th century, the Mamlukes overthrew the Ayyubid dynasty and proceeded to rule the region for almost two and a half centuries. The coins minted by the Mamluke sultan differ in some respects from the

earlier type. Their gold pieces are larger, reaching 6 grammes in weight, and bear inscriptions written in Arabic Naskhi script instead of Kufic. Their silver and bronze coins are distinguished by geometric, concentric or star-shaped designs. An entirely new feature is the blazon, as in the Sultan Baybar's lion passant which appears on his coins and also exists on one of the towers of Karak castle.

The Mamlukes, in turn, gave way to Ottoman conquest in 1517; and for the next 400 years, the entire Near East remained part of the Ottoman empire. Coinage during that period, issued in gold, silver, copper and zinc in

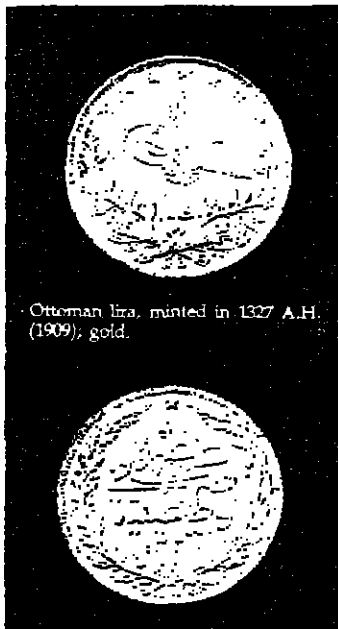


great quantity by thirty different Ottoman sultans, was circulated by the Arabs in Jordan, Palestine and other countries of the region.

The epigraphic content of these coins consisted of the sultan's name on the obverse; and on the reverse, a laudatory legend, along with the date and place of mint. From sultan to sultan, the inscriptions invariably differ, but otherwise the Ottoman coins remain consistent in style. Their distinguishing feature is the highly artistic use of the Arabic Naskhi, Thuluth and Rika scripts, with the letters intricately interlocked into an graceful rendering of the sultan's name and title.

Of importance during the Ottoman period was the gradual expansion of the monetary system. In the 19th century, during the reign of Sultan Abd al-Majid, new types of gold coins (*Majidi*) were minted in piaster (*qirsh*) denominations of 25, 50, 100, 250 and 500. The copper coin, whose basic unit was the *para*, was issued in various denominations ranging from 1 to 40.

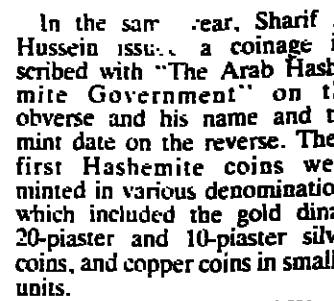
In 1916, Sultan Muhammad Rashid issued a law for the reorganisation of coinage, under which all currencies were valued



has been supplying two issues annually of both notes and coins in various denominations. It also issues special commemorative coins in gold and silver.

The first notes to bear the image of His Majesty King Hussein were issued in 1965 and include the name of the Central Bank of Jordan. Then in 1978 new coins engraved with the portrait of King Hussein were minted in copper, nickel and zinc, in various denominations based on the *dirham* (100 fils) and its fractions. On the face is the bust of His Majesty, encircled with the legend in Arabic: *Al-Hussein bin Talal, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*. The reverse is engraved with olive branches, the name of the Kingdom, the denominational value of the coin and the date of its issue, in both Arabic and English. A new denomination of one-quarter *dinar* (250 fils), also issued, bears an identical image of His Majesty on its face, but with an olive tree and circular wreath on the reverse.

Thus, the historical procession of coins continues, carrying the story of man... until some future age when a new medium of exchange is invented.



In the same year, Sharif Hussein issued a coinage scribed with "The Arab Hashemite Government" on the obverse and his name and the mint date on the reverse. The first Hashemite coins were minted in various denominations which included the gold *dina* 20-piaster and 10-piaster silver coins, and copper coins in small units.

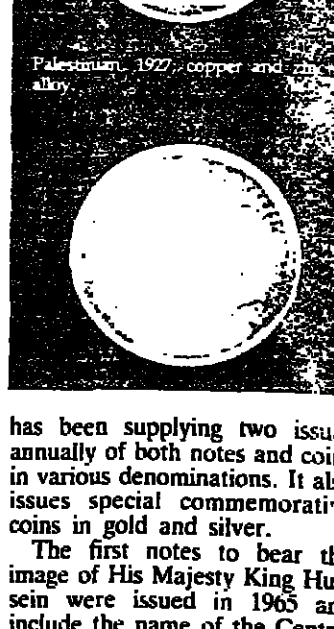
After the end of World War I, instead of gaining the independence they fought to achieve, the Arabs were again subjected to foreign domination. A division of their lands by the Allies into spheres of influence put Jordan, Palestine and Iraq under British mandate and Syria and Lebanon under French control. Thus, British currency, including the gold pound, began circulating in Jordan and Palestine alongside Egyptian currency.

In 1927, however, the British Currency Council was established and a Palestinian coin was issued. These coins, in copper and zinc in various denominations, are inscribed with the symbolic olive branch and bear legends in Arabic, English and Hebrew.

Meanwhile, the Emir Abdullah, second son of Sharif A. Hussein, had made his successful move to assert Arab independence in Jordan. In March 1921 he had entered Amman with forces, established the Transjordan, and won independence from British Arab national entity. Two years later, the British mandate ended, and on May 25, 1946, the Emirate became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, a sovereign fully independent state with King Abdullah as its constitutional monarch.

Palestinian coins and money continued to circulate in Jordan and Palestine until 1948 when the Jordanian Currency Council was founded and issued the first specifically Jordanian currency. The earliest Jordanian coins, consisting of a copper and nickel alloy or bronze, bore the name of the Hashemite of Jordan and the date of issue.

In 1964, the Central Bank of Jordan replaced the currency council and assumed responsibility for the issue and regulation of Jordanian currency, in accordance with international specifications. Since its inception, the CB



has been supplying two issues annually of both notes and coins in various denominations. It also issues special commemorative coins in gold and silver.

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A sad, old warrior

ISRAELI Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's statement two days ago that "basically, especially with the Gaza Strip, we see relative tranquility, with here and there outbursts of hostility, but they are coped with very effectively," is a sad comment on the state of the Israeli leadership, if not the Jewish people as a whole. It is tempting for Israeli leaders to see the Palestinian uprising as an isolated outburst by young rowdies. But it is wrong, and it is naive for Israeli or American leaders to address the uprising in terms of how to "restore order" or "ensure security."

Mr. Rabin may like to think that there is relative tranquility in the Palestinian land his country occupies, but we would have thought that our Semitic brothers in Israel would be among the first to appreciate the stirrings and manifestations of national identity. There were many who also said that things are relatively tranquil in the Jewish ghettos of medieval and 19th Century Europe, but beneath the tranquility was a massive sense of unfulfilled national identity, which finally led to the creation of the state of Israel in the wake of the Nazi horrors.

Mr. Rabin, and Jews all over the world, should look at the Palestinian uprising and see the face of a Palestinian nation that seeks to manifest itself in a peaceful state, and in a normal society. Such an identity — like the Jewish identity at the turn of the century — cannot be suppressed by force of arms. Nor can it be subjugated to what the people of Israel like to profess as a higher moral claim to statehood, security and a normal life. The suffering of the Jewish people under Nazism cannot culminate in a Jewish state which itself denies the identity and nationalism of the Palestinian Arabs.

If Mr. Rabin and others of his emotional frenzy would like to make believe the Palestinian uprising can be controlled by a show of force, they are free to play their own emotional games, and to live in their own make-believe world. They would do well, however, to appreciate the lessons of their own Jewish history, lessons that assert the inevitability of national will and the futility of military force in the face of a human being who will insist on manifesting a genuine political and national identity. Mr. Rabin is a sad figure — an old warrior who cannot stop fighting, and who cannot admit the finite efficacy of weapons.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Shamir's peace

IN Israel's view, peace means military occupation of all the Palestinian land and any other Arab land it could occupy in the future. For Israel, peace means possessing a great military might that can enable it to impose its hegemony on all the region without any opposition or any protest by the Arabs or other parties. For this reason, Israel continues to reject all efforts designed to establish peace based on justice and at the same time expects the world to support its expansionist policies based on aggression and injustice. We can see Israel's position from Shamir's initial response to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's proposals on the first day of his visit to Israel. We can see this Israeli position clarified in Shamir's reaction to Shultz's meeting with two Palestinian Americans to discuss means of ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel is therefore seeking a form of peace which can enable it to impose its will at any time on any of its neighbours, and not a peace that can be achieved at an international conference guaranteed by world powers. Israel wants peace with land and is not ready to give back the land to its lawful owners. This is Israel's official position which will be presented to George Shultz during his latest round of talks in the Middle East.

Al Dustour: Doomed to failure

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has arrived in Israel for yet another round of talks on the Middle East question against a pessimistic atmosphere created by Israeli leaders' statements. Shultz who had started his tour in our region on an optimistic note seems to be toning down his expectations, and is expressing some doubts about arriving at a successful outcome. This change of heart is clearly caused by Israel's statements in which Shamir and other members of his cabinet outrightly rejected the new American proposals and the idea of an international conference which would help the Arabs and the Israelis to exchange land for peace. But instead of trying to exert some pressure and influence on Shamir to make concessions, Shultz seemed to be trying to appease the Israeli premier, thus strengthening Israel's intransigence. In addition, the U.S. Congress has been warning the U.S. administration against pressuring Israel or trying to change its official position. This situation has caused Shultz to face a wall of Israeli rejectionist policy and an extreme and hardened position with regard to the U.S. proposals. Hence, we can imagine Shultz failing in his endeavour and returning home without achieving any progress towards the aspired peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. responsibility

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is embarking on a fresh attempt to bring about a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Shultz is making his third attempt in less than two months despite Israel's intransigent position and the negative stand shown by Yitzhak Shamir to the American proposals. The U.S. is partly responsible for this Israeli attitude since the American administration continues to give the Jewish state pledges of unlimited support and unlimited military and economic help. The U.S. is taking this position despite its full knowledge of Israel's negative attitude and its refusal to exchange land for peace, through a lasting settlement at an international conference. What Israel wants to hear is continued American support and nothing about proposals for a genuine peace. The Arabs for their part, still adhere to the idea of an international conference but they can welcome any serious bid towards achieving a settlement through convincing Israel of recognising the rights of the Palestinian people. Jordan and the rest of the Arab countries will deal with the new proposals in a manner that can achieve a durable peace, and not as ideas leading to partial settlements.

A commonwealth of Israel and Palestine?

By Richard Arnold

THE Palestine problem bedevils world statesmen; and the sufferings of the Palestinian people continue unabated. New ideas, new attitudes, new concepts are needed, if the current impasse is to be unblocked. In this context it is worth considering again the merits of the once highly praised, but now forgotten, concept of the Commonwealth of Palestine, or, as we may now suggest, 'The Commonwealth of Israel and Palestine.'

In February, 1947, Great Britain placed the problem of Palestine into the hands of the United Nations, and henceforth authority for deciding the future of Palestine was vested in the U.N. The United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) was set up and sent to Palestine to investigate and make recommendations.

On August 31, 1947, the Committee tabled its Final Report in Geneva. It included two sets of recommendations: the Minority Recommendation, advanced by India, Turkey and Yugoslavia, advocated a federal scheme of government for Palestine, while the Majority Recommendation, put forward by the remaining ten members of the Committee, suggested a form of partition for Palestine — a scheme known as 'The Commonwealth of Palestine.' This Commonwealth of Palestine was described in a memorandum of 46 clauses, written by Mr. Ivan Rand, chief justice of the supreme court of Canada, and Canadian representative on the Committee.

On November 29, 1947, the U.N. General Assembly, having voted in favour of the Majority Recommendation, announced a plan for the partition of Palestine. But the original concept — 'The Commonwealth of Palestine' — has now been forgotten. It is time to examine it again.

Rand believed that the religious, cultural and historical significance of Palestine set it apart irrevocably from the rest of the world, and recognition of that fact ought now to be formally declared by the nations. (Clause 1). In Clauses 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9 he sets out his main ideas.

1. I would lay it down therefore as a primary postulate that this land must be deemed to be a Holy Land, to be called the Commonwealth of Palestine, a focus of the spiritual and religious interests of the people of the Muslim, Jewish and Christian faiths and this dedication should be symbolised by a declaration that a sovereign interest in the Commonwealth resides in the United Nations Organisation forever.

2. A second postulate, a corollary of the first, is that in any reorganisation of its government, the unity and integrity of the economic and social life of the Commonwealth must be maintained.

3. My suggestion then for a scheme of partition of Palestine which preserves its economic and social integrity is this:

4. There would be three independent states; one which we may (for present purposes) call the Jewish State, the second, the Arab State, and the third, the State of Jerusalem. In each there would be vested full powers of political sovereignty except so far as they might be specifically modified by the constituting instrument.

5. Each of the states would be deemed a republic founded on a democratic basis in which individual equal and non-discriminatory rights in civil, political and religious matters, the non-impairment of obligations, and the rights of minorities in relation to education, language and cultural activities, would be guaranteed.

In subsequent Clauses, Rand discusses the government of the State of Jerusalem, the judicial system, and the independence of

minority groups in each state to maintain their own systems of education. None of the states could maintain a standing army or air force, but home guards with auxiliary air units might be established for police and protective purposes.

A Central Authority was to be established, which would have regard to "a certain field of common functional interest," such as "highways, railways, ports, irrigation and other works connecting or directly affecting the three states"; and "it would also have concurrent powers of financial assistance to the states in respect of such matters as education, health and social services."

Most important is Clause 44. Rand suggests that "the Central Authority be likewise the government for the State of Jerusalem." The constitution of the Government of the State of Jerusalem could, he feels, "be made to fit in satisfactorily with that of the Central Authority."

The original and imaginative ideas in the Memorandum might be adapted and made relevant to the situation today.

The special religious and historical character which Rand ascribes to Palestine, and the international recognition which he feels should be accorded to this fact by the United Nations, transcend political considerations — the Palestine question is lifted onto a higher plane. This is the philosophy behind the solution.

Under the "nominal aegis" of the United Nations, three separate independent states are "created" and recognised by all nations — Palestine, Israel and the State of Jerusalem — all comprising The Commonwealth of Palestine (or, The Commonwealth of Israel and Palestine). Such a plan would provide a flexible political framework wherein the states could retain complete autonomy; or, they could eventually blend into a larger, more cohesive entity. Such a fluid arrangement

would allow both Jews and Arabs to entertain their aspirations for their homelands with hope of fulfillment.

The "Arab State" would comprise the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and possibly the western part of Galilee; here the wishes and rights of the Palestinians are of paramount importance, the field work of independent commissioners determining the boundaries between Israel and Palestine would be crucial to a satisfactory settlement.

The establishment of the Commonwealth would accord well with King Fahd's eight-point peace plan; indeed, his proposals are indispensable to any final settlement, including: A guarantee of a final settlement by the United Nations; recognition of the right of Palestinians to repatriation, with compensation for those not wishing to return; the establishment of East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine. There is no reason why the State of Jerusalem should not house the capitals of the other two states; part of East Jerusalem the capital of Palestine; part of West Jerusalem the capital of Israel.

The idea of an independent State of Jerusalem (A Free City, a kind of New Jerusalem), functioning like the other two states, under the auspices of the United Nations, might appeal to religious leaders throughout the world. (It is worth noting, incidentally, that the State of Jerusalem comprised a large area of surrounding countryside, including Bethlehem).

Britain and its European partners are urging Israel and the United States that an international peace conference should be convened as soon as possible. Such a conference could reconsider the concept of a Commonwealth of Palestine, and explore its possibilities as a comprehensive settlement solution is sought — Middle East International, London.

1967: A turning point for Israeli Arabs

In this second of three articles Lamis K. Andoni explores the relationship between Palestinians in Israel and in the occupied territories, and traces the evolution of Land Day.

*So what,
When in my homeland
The sparrow dies of starvation,
In exile without a shroud,
While the earthworm is satiated,
Devouring God's food.
So what,
When in the barren space satellites spin,
And in the streets walks a beggar, holding a hat,
Blow east winds!
Our roots are still alive.*

Samih El Qassem.

THE 12th anniversary of Land Day, commemorated on March 30, has once again emphasised the role of the 700,000 Israeli Arabs in the national Palestinian struggle.

But the "contrast" between the peaceful rallies organised by Arabs in "Israel proper" with the rebellious national spirit of the stone throwers of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip have once again underscored the "official civil rights" nature of the movement of the Israeli Arabs, the Palestinians of 1948 as they are called in the Arab World.

In fact the focus of the Israeli Arabs on civil right issues was basically a result of external and internal political factors which had prevented the evolution of an effective and clearly-defined Palestinian nationalist movement following the establishment of Israel in 1948.

Such a national movement with its relevant independent institutions did not exist in such a form anywhere in Palestine prior to 1948 and consequently the Israeli Arabs lacked such a necessary umbrella.

This was not the case with the Palestinians of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. By 1967 the Palestinian resistance movement was already founded, albeit in a clandestine fashion, and it had already established links and even cells in those areas.

That is not to say that the Israeli Arabs did not attempt to organise politically but that they only had limited choices. Those who chose to effect a change through the system, without abandoning their identity, joined the Israeli Communist Party (Rakah), which was actually the continuation of the Palestinian Communist Party founded in 1921.

There was a minority who joined Israeli Zionist parties, but the pan-Arabist trend which swept the region in the fifties and the sixties could not but affect the mood and the outlook of many of the Israeli Arabs. This influence was translated mainly into the raising of expectations of many Israeli Arabs in an eventual "liberation" of Arabs from Israeli rule.

According to Gazi Saadi, chairman of Al Jalil Research Centre, the Israeli Arabs were looking at late Egyptian President Jamal Abdul Nasser as the "national saviour". On the organisational level Israeli Arabs founded the nationalist Ard (the Land) movement. Israel banned the Ard movement which was influenced by the pan-Arabist ideology, particularly the Nasserite trend. Unlike Rakah the Ard movement refused to work through the Israeli political establishment. According to political analysts, who studied that period, the Ard movement believed that the Arabs were bound to win the war and liberate the Palestinians.

"This feeling persisted during the first days of the 1967 war," Saadi, who lived in the Galilee until he was deported by the Israelis in 1977, said.

"I remember that at the outset of the war even Jews expected the Arabs to be the victors and our Jewish neighbours used to beg us to be nice to them once Arab rule prevailed again in Palestine," Saadi recalls. "But the Jewish attitude changed as it became evident that the Arabs were defeated and the dreams of many of us of a possible liberation collapsed."

While the 1967 defeat shattered the dreams of many Israeli Arabs of possible liberation through war, it also opened new horizons and scopes for them by strengthening their ties with the Arab movements in general and the Palestinian resistance in particular.

Turning point

Historians and analysts believe that the 1967 war constituted a turning point for the Israeli Arabs since it strengthened their feeling of belonging to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and abroad. "They felt that they were part of one people," Saadi said.

Furthermore in 1967 the Israeli government lifted the military rule imposed on Arab towns and villages for the first time since 1948, thus providing for a freer movement of the Israeli Arabs.

But analysts believe that it was the Arab victory in 1973 and the 1974 Arab and international recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people which constituted important political factors that fuelled Palestinian national fervour among the Palestinians of 1948 and in the occupied territories.

On their own part, the Israelis played an inadvertent role in re-enforcing the Palestinian identity of the Israeli Arabs when they introduced a plan in 1976 to expropriate Arab lands as part of a scheme for the judaisation of Galilee. That was the last straw for the Arabs in Galilee who despite the fact that they constituted 50 per cent of the population they owned only 8-10 per cent of the land, due to systematic Israeli expropriations.

On March 30, 1976, the Arabs revolted in defence of their land and as a result six Arabs were killed when the Israelis opened fire to defuse the rallies and protests in the Galilee.

While Palestinian analysts here agree that the Land Day was a manifestation of the Israeli Arabs' unwavering commitment to their Palestinian identity, they differ in assessing the major political forces that led to that day.

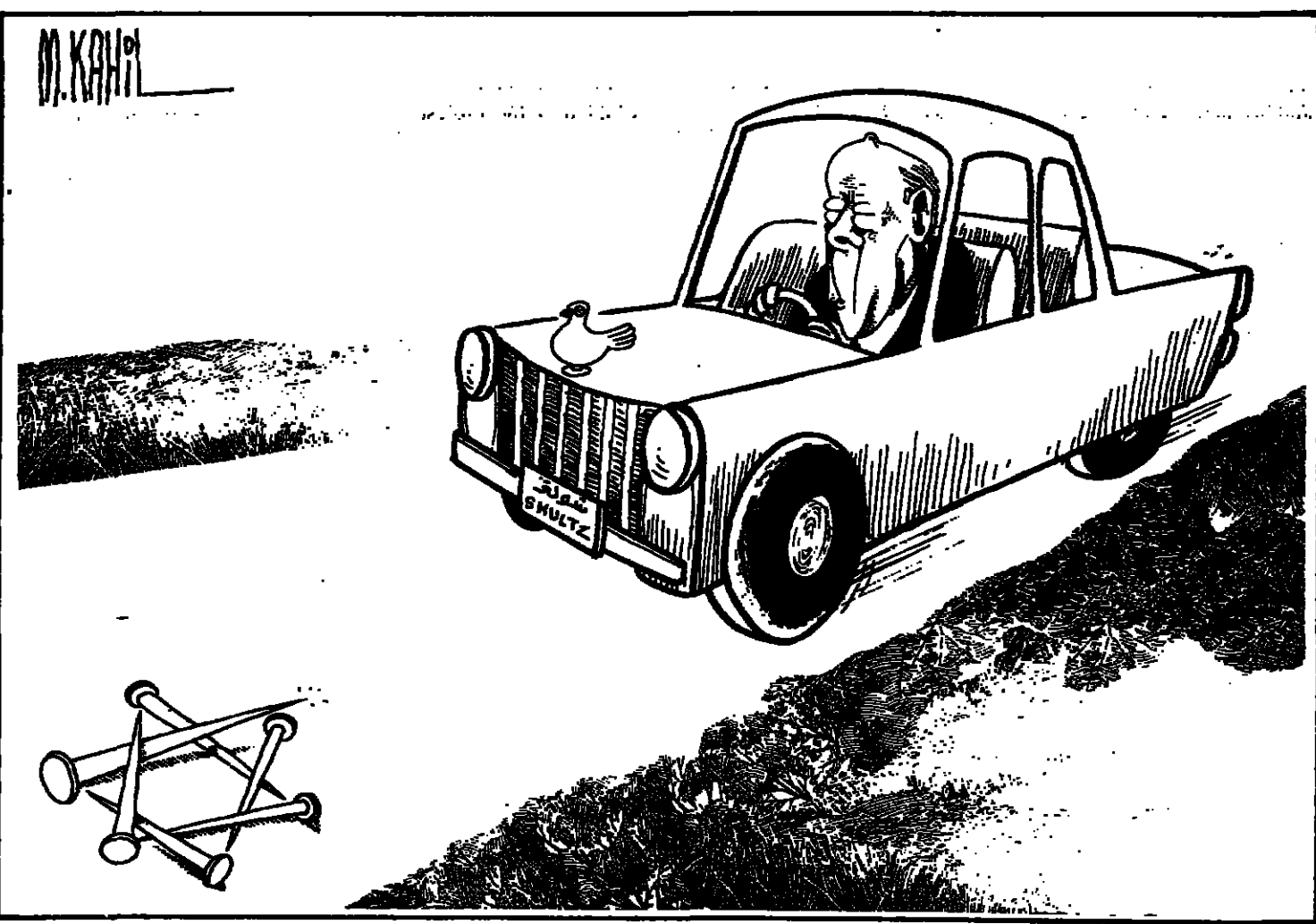
While some believe that it was the constant organisation and daily struggle of Rakah which galvanised the Arab movement in defence of their rights and the land, others argue that Land Day was the culmination of the long struggle of the banned Ard movement which succeeded in creating a Palestinian nationalist trend.

The analysts, however, agree that the decade which followed the 1967 war witnessed a growing manifestation of Palestinian nationalism and an increasing support for the PLO and its goals among the Israeli Arabs.

According to statistics Israel arrested or deported around 3,000 Israeli Arabs between 1967-1977 for "security reasons" including contacts with Palestinian armed factions.

But despite the growing Palestinian nationalism among the Israeli Arabs, they have not officially endorsed explicit nationalist demands.

However, their primary goal to remain steadfast in their land cannot but be perceived as part of the general national Palestinian struggle although their tactics and slogans, so far, have been confined to those of a civil rights movement.



Is Israel dictating U.S. policy?

The following article is reprinted from the International Herald Tribune. The writer is professor of political science at Tufts University and a senior associate of the Centre for European Studies at Harvard.

By Tony Smith

BOSTON — Assume that in the general elections to be held later this year Israeli public opinion rallies behind Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's repeated assertions that national security requires Israel to maintain unquestioned sovereignty in the occupied territories. Given the importance of American financial, military and diplomatic support for Israel, any such decision by Israel automatically engages America as well.

Americans are thus coming to see that their own national interest is also at stake in the Israeli repression of the Palestinian uprising. The question is not one of assigning moral culpability to Israel but of recognising the reality of U.S. interests that Israel cannot expect America to ignore indefinitely.

According to Shamir, the

Palestinian uprising will be satisfied with nothing less than the elimination of the Jewish state. As Shamir and his supporters assert, there should be no expectations that "Judaea and Samaria" will ever be lost to Israeli rule.

Yet the current international situation is as favourable for the exchange of territory for peace as one could hope since the annexation of East Jerusalem and the settlement of large numbers of Jews in these areas.

Most Arab states have the Iran-Iraq war at the head of their list of regional concerns. A solution of the Palestinian issue that recognised Israel's right to secure borders would presumably be acceptable to Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Nor is the Soviet Union as interested in fishing in troubled waters as it once might have been. Secretary of State George Shultz's suggestion that Moscow be included in any international conference to oversee a settlement in the region is recognition of the stabilising role that General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev might play in Middle East politics.

If Israeli opinion hardens on the question of Palestinian auton-

omy in such a relatively mild international climate, what realistic hope is there that it will soften tomorrow under a less favourable configuration of forces? What we see emerging is an ugly civil conflict, one just as bitter as that in Northern Ireland or South Africa, and one likely to stretch just as far into the future.

How should the United States interpret its own interests? Clearly it has global responsibilities that can only be severely handicapped by a close relationship with an Israel whose annexationist policy threatens to associate America permanently with such a festering issue.

The need for friends and manoeuvrability not only in the Arab World but throughout the lands of Islam from Turkey to Pakistan dictates that the United States seek to avoid the common perception of an American blank check to Israel. That is what Shultz's recent trip was about: Reaffirming America's commitment to the well-being of Israel while insisting on the legitimacy of the United States asserting its own interests in the area.

But if the Shultz initiatives should fail, as they seem to have, Israel would have used the support of the international com-

munity not to ease itself out of a terrible dilemma but instead to dig itself more deeply into an intractable conflict. And as with South Africa, Washington may be left with no sensible policy but to distance itself from a problem it has patiently but unsuccessfully tried for years to help resolve.

Shamir has repeatedly asserted that the United States should not try to influence Israeli policy. Israel alone will judge what its interests are. But can Israel genuinely expect the United States to remain indifferent when its own vital interests are at stake? Can it deny to Washington the right it claims for itself?

It would be a serious mistake to assume that Secretary Shultz is a lame duck with only a few more months in office. The considerations he has raised are those that the next administration must address quickly and frankly as well.

If Shamir's interpretation of the situation becomes the majority opinion in Israel, what other choice do Americans have but to review critically the many ways their ability to act in world affairs is hampered by an inflexible ally whose policies have made it a serious and permanent liability to America's national interests?

Carter said to have studied arms-for-hostages swap

MIAMI (R) — President Jimmy Carter considered giving \$10 million in military spare parts to Iran in exchange for 52 American hostages held at the U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1980, the Miami Herald reported Sunday.

U.S. officials dropped the plan because they decided the go-between, an Iranian-born U.S. resident, did not have the backing of then-President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr of Iran, according to newly declassified documents examined by the Herald.

The documents, mostly Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and State Department memoranda from Carter's term, provide the first detailed account of his administration's effort to put together an arms-for-hostages deal in the days before the 1980 presidential election, the newspaper said.

Ronald Reagan won a landslide victory in the election, and political analysts have blamed Carter's defeat on public dissatisfaction with his handling of the hostage crisis.

The documents describe how the go-between, Houshang Lavi, became involved with the Carter administration.

The Herald said the proposed

deal appeared to spark concern in Reagan's campaign that Carter would come up with a surprise move to free the hostages before the election.

In one CIA memo to Carter's deputy National Security Council chief David Aaron, dated Oct. 3, 1980, an unidentified agency official reported a conversation in which Lavi turned over a list of F-14 parts and made his offer.

Lavi "wished to arrange the delivery to Iran of \$8 to \$10 million of F-14 spare parts," the memo said.

It said if the U.S. provided the parts and met Iran's other terms — unfreezing Iranian assets, forgiving other claims against Iran and promising not to interfere in Iran's internal affairs — Lavi "would arrange the swap of all the hostages upon the delivery of the spare parts."

Although the memo said Lavi's plan had the backing of Bani-Sadr, the CIA recommended the deal not be pursued.

The memos show the Carter administration ended its contact with Lavi Oct. 29, 1980, after a foreign ambassador in Tehran reported Bani-Sadr was not aware of the Lavi offer.



An Israeli soldier keeps watch over Palestinians in the Al Amari refugee camp in the occupied West Bank.

Egypt, Kenya assail Israeli actions

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt and Kenya blamed Israeli practices Monday for the deaths of more than 130 Palestinians and worsened living conditions in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The criticism was in a joint communique signed by the countries' presidents, Kenya's Daniel Arap Moi and Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, at the end of a three-day official visit by the Kenyan leader.

Issued in English and Arabic, the communique also urged international comprehensive and mandatory sanctions to force South Africa to abandon apartheid, its policy of racial separation.

"The two presidents expressed their deep concern at the prevailing situation in the occupied territories in the West Bank and Gaza Strip resulting from current Israeli practices leading to the loss of valuable human life and a deterioration in the living conditions of the people of the areas," it said.

The communique said Mubarak and Moi "reiterated their conviction that the convening of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations ... provides the best framework for reaching a comprehensive, just and

lasting peace settlement."

The communique said Mubarak and Moi "strongly condemned the racist regime of Pretoria and its apartheid policies and inhuman and illegal practices against the people of South Africa."

They also denounced "the repeated aggression and destabilizing activities by that regime against the frontline states," a reference to occasional South African military forays into Angola and other neighboring countries.

The communique said Mubarak accepted an invitation from Moi to visit Kenya on a date to be set through diplomatic channels.

The statement also called for "full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Chad" and said they supported efforts by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to resolve the Chad-Libya dispute over the Aouzou Strip.

Mubarak and Moi agreed to cooperate on use of the River Nile. Egypt, which depends on the Nile for irrigation and a quarter of its electric power, has voiced concern at the impact of drought in East Africa on water levels in Lake Nasser behind the Aswan High Dam.

Somalia, Ethiopia agree to resume diplomatic relations

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Somalia and Ethiopia have agreed to restore diplomatic relations, 11 years after the East African neighbours went to war over a patch of semiarid land, the Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) reported Monday.

The two countries also agreed to withdraw forces from their common border, to end all subversive and hostile propaganda and to return prisoners of war.

The agreement was reached after peace talks between Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bahiy and Somali Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Mohamoud Farah. The talks were held Friday and Saturday in Mogadishu, the Somali capital.

"The meeting was conducted in an atmosphere of understanding with the two sides underlining the imperative need for peace and harmony among the peoples of the two countries," ENA quoted from the joint statement issued Monday.

The government-owned agency said Berhanu had scheduled a news conference for Monday afternoon to explain the agreement in detail.

Border disputes have made Ethiopia and Somalia enemies for more than a century. In 1977-78, they fought a full-scale war after Somalia invaded the Ogaden, a semiarid region of eastern Ethiopia populated by ethnic Somalis.

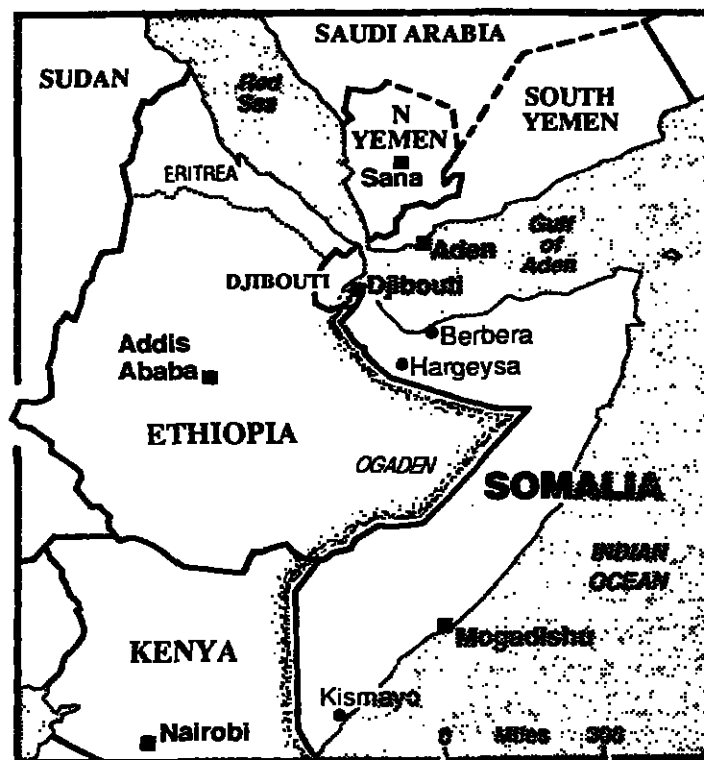
Ethiopia repelled the invaders with the help of thousands of Cuban troops and million of dollars in arms from the Soviet Union. Ethiopia's chief ally.

The United States is Somalia's main ally, but supplies the country with defensive weapons only.

Ethiopia, Somalia and Djibouti are neighbours in the region of East Africa projecting into the Red Sea and known as the Horn of Africa.

Ethiopia and Somalia technically have been at war since 1977. In recent years there have been border clashes, but nothing on the scale of the fighting 11 years ago.

A rapprochement began in January 1986 when Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre and Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam met in Djibouti during a drought conference.



The leaders agreed in principle to resolve their differences and formed an ad hoc committee to discuss peace.

Two subsequent committee meetings, in Addis Ababa in May 1986 and in Mogadishu the following August, ended inconclusively.

Peace talks seemed doomed after a Feb. 12, 1987, incident in which Mogadishu claimed Ethiopia sent planes, tanks and waves of soldiers in an attack against a northwest area of Somalia.

The Somalis claimed that they killed more than 300 Ethiopian soldiers, destroyed half of the 22 tanks the invaders used and took 25 prisoners of war.

Addis Ababa denied attacking Somalia, but the Somalis later took foreign journalists on a tour of the area where they were shown Soviet-built tanks with

Ethiopian military markings and were allowed to talk with purported Ethiopian POWs.

Talks continued despite the clash.

Mengistu and Siad Barre held a second face-to-face meeting in February, again in Djibouti and, like before, the venue was a regional drought conference.

At the meeting, the two leaders set up last weekend's peace talk session, which resulted in the apparent agreement.

Besides fighting each other, Somalia and Ethiopia have supported and harboured rebels opposed to the other's government.

Political analysts in East Africa quoted by Reuters noted that the breakthrough in relations came at a time when the government in Addis Ababa is facing increasing pressure from rebel guerrillas in northern Ethiopia.

Carlucci pledges continued U.S. support for Morocco

MARRAKESH, Morocco (Agencies) — U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci, ending a three-day visit to Morocco, has pledged Washington's continued military support for the country.

"We will continue to work very closely with Morocco to help the country meet its national security needs," he told a news conference shortly before leaving for India late Sunday.

From India, Carlucci will travel to Pakistan and then return to visit Tunisia. Both Morocco and Tunisia receive substantial U.S. military and economic aid.

Carlucci, who held two rounds

of talks with Morocco's King Hassan, described his visit as "extremely productive," but gave few details of the outcome.

He said the discussions covered the strategic relationship between Morocco and the United States, the Middle East peace process and the current state of U.S.-Soviet arms control negotiations.

Questioned about a U.S.-Morocco 1982 military cooperation accord which expires next month, Carlucci said the Moroccan government was studying U.S. proposals whereby some additional training exercises might be held in Morocco.

Palestinians stage anti-Shultz protest strike

(Continued from page 1)

protested against Shultz's peace mission, erecting a 15-metre high effigy of PLO leader Yasser Arafat outside Shultz's hotel.

The latest shooting took the death toll to at least 137 Palestinians and one Israeli soldier in the uprising that erupted in the occupied territories last Dec. 9.

Police also raided the Arab Jerusalem offices of the Palestinian newspaper Al Fajr's English language subsidiary, but left after taking the names of staff, journalists said.

The raid appeared to be part of a crackdown on Palestinians who pass news reports to the foreign press, following the closure for six months last week of the Arab-owned Palestine Press Service (PPS).

About 600 police deployed in Jerusalem's Old City to prevent clashes between Muslims and a militant Jewish group that tried to enter and pray in the Al Aqsa Mosque complex.

Khatib, deputy head of the 30-member Islamic Supreme Council which administers the complex, said if the group entered the complex Muslims would be forced to "defend themselves."

A Hebrew-language leaflet circulating in Nablus called on Israeli soldiers to desert. Entitled

"Let's Think a Minute," the handbill quoted by the daily Jerusalem Post said:

"To the soldier who is patrolling our cities, villages and the camps of refugees expelled from their homes... why not spend this time on a secure, quiet and beautiful beach?"

"Soldier, go back to your family, go back and take care of your life and future... lend a hand to peace and security for both you and us," it said.

Between Jerusalem and the twin cities of Ramallah and Al Bireh, there was virtually no traffic on the roads and the only open store was a bakery. Bakeries and pharmacies were exempted from the general strike call.

The usually throbbing Ramallah vegetable market was shut down except for children selling candy from wooden pallets on

one street corner.

Rashad Al Shawwa, the deposed mayor of Gaza City, said the city was on full strike and said Israeli soldiers had closed gasoline stations and bakeries and may have turned off electricity.

"Electricity has been cut off from the town altogether. We don't know if this is another punishment," Shawwa said in a telephone interview. "The closing of bakeries will definitely lead to a (food) shortage."

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Sunday the army was employing a new offensive-oriented tactic to take the initiative away from demonstrators.

"We are not just waiting for violence from the other side but initiate actions and teach lessons to those who start violence," he said.

S. Arabia may allow missile inspection

(Continued from page 1)

missile warheads and armour-piercing shells developed by Israel.

The Sunday Times said there were indications Israel was using technology from its cancelled Lavi fighter plane to help China develop its own multipurpose combat fighter.

Israeli Defence Ministry Yit-

zhak Rabin Sunday denied the newspaper reports.

The reports, based on what the newspapers described as a joint investigation, said the Israelis travelled to China on false Philippine passports and negotiated the deal with approval from top Israeli leaders.

China and Israel do not have diplomatic relations.

Shultz wants clear Israeli reply

(Continued from page 1)

In Amman, a senior Jordanian official told Reuters Jordan sees little hope of success for the mission by Shultz.

"We have not got anywhere with this American proposal and will not get anywhere," the official, who refused to be named, told Reuters.

"But we don't want the Arabs to take the blame for its failure," he added.

The official said Shultz had promised when he visited the region in March to "twist Shamir's arm," to persuade him to accept an international conference under U.N. auspices.

"We will ask Shultz why this has not happened," he said.

Jordan has said it wants a comprehensive peace settlement from a U.N.-sponsored conference attended by all parties including the PLO.

The PLO has denounced the Shultz plan.

"The Shultz initiative... doesn't meet the minimum demands of the Palestinian people," Saji Salameh, an official of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and a member of the PLO's Central Council, told Reuters.

About 400 students demonstrated at the Jordan University campus Monday against the

Shultz peace plan.

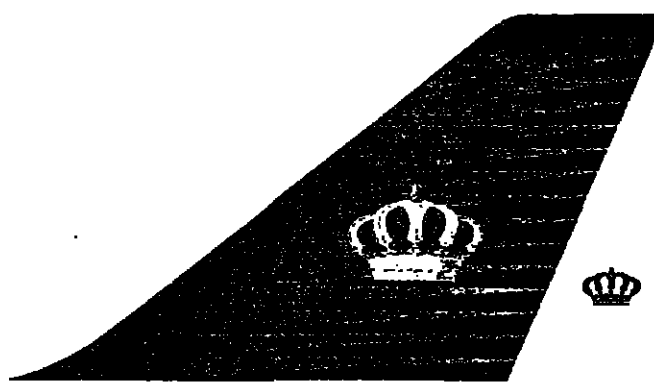
"Let this raven (Shultz) go home... down with all conspiracies he is carrying," Shultz go back... go back... students chanted at the protest.

The demonstrators marched around the campus gathering a crowd of more than 1,500 students chanting "Shultz, you're out, take your plans and go home."



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United-Liverpool soccer melee ends in draw

LONDON (R) — Manchester United successfully defended one of the proudest records in English soccer Monday when, despite being reduced to 10 men by the dismissal of defender Colin Gibson, they held First Division leaders Liverpool to a 3-3 draw at Anfield.

Despite some indifferent recent form, Liverpool with seven games to play remain 11 points ahead of United and 14 clear of Nottingham Forest. United, however, have played two more games than Liverpool and Forest.

United, unbeaten on visits to Liverpool since 1979, were expected to face the backlash from the Reds' second defeat of the season, at Forest Saturday, but surprised everyone by taking a second minute lead through England captain Bryan Robson.

His goal put United in command and they withstood tremendous pressure before collapsing dramatically and conceding three goals in nine minutes either side of the interval.

England striker Peter Beardsley, recalled after being dropped at Nottingham, levelled in the 37th minute, Scottish defender Gary Gillespie put Liverpool ahead three minutes later and Steve McMahon hit a third just one minute into the second half.

When United left-back Gibson was sent off after 59 minutes for a foul on Steve Nicol it seemed Liverpool would be able to run up a big score.

But 10-man United stormed back. Robson brought them back into the game with a 65th minute goal and Gordon Strachan struck an equaliser 12 minutes from time.

Many experts had predicted Liverpool would be celebrating their 17th championship with Easter victories over Forest and United, but instead the Merseyside team are still left requiring seven points to secure the title.

Forest, who face Liverpool in an English Football Association (F.A.) Cup semifinal Saturday, maintained the pressure on the leaders with a 1-0 win at struggling Portsmouth, Terry Wilson scoring the only goal in the 67th minute.

Everton hung on to fourth position despite being held to a 0-0 draw at West Ham but now lead fifth-placed Queen's Park Rangers only a goal difference.

Queen's Park Rangers beat fellow-Londoners Tottenham 2-0 with a goal in each half from David Kerslake to move level with Everton on 61 points. Liverpool lead with 77, United have 66 and Forest 63.

Sixth-placed Arsenal, who meet Luton Town in the League Cup final later this month, ended a run of five games without a win when they beat Norwich 2-0 with England under-21 midfielder Paul Davis, back after injury, setting up both goals for Alan Smith and Perry Groves.

Arsenal, sixth in the English First Division and looking forward to a meeting with struggling Luton in the English League Cup final later this month, had been out of touch in recent weeks.

At the other end of the table, bottom club Watford were beaten 1-0 at Charlton and now look doomed to relegation as they trail 20th-placed Oxford by six points with six matches to play.

Robert Lee scored the only goal after 26 minutes to lift Charlton above Portsmouth and out of the bottom three.

Oxford, now managed by former Liverpool defender Mark Lawrenson, were held 0-0 at home by Southampton and also look certain to be playing in the Second Division next season.

Hill outclasses Emebe, retains WBA title

BISMARCK, North Dakota (R) — American Virgil Hill outboxed Cameroon-born Frenchman Jean-Marie Emebe for 10 rounds Sunday, then stopped him in the 11th to retain his World Boxing Association (WBA) light heavyweight title.

Hill, 24, improved his record to 21-0, to the delight of his hometown fans. Emebe's record dropped to 25-5. It was the first title fight ever held in North Dakota and over 8,000 fans packed the Bismarck Convention Centre to cheer for the state's first world champion.

Hill did not disappoint as he danced and jabbed his way through the early rounds, building a huge lead.

Emebe fought his way out of trouble a couple of times in the middle rounds, but Hill was so far ahead on points that the challenger's only hope of victory was a late knockout.

Instead, Hill connected with a combination to Emebe's head in the 11th round that dropped the paragon to the canvas for the first time in the 32-year-old's career.

Emebe was able to get up, but was virtually defenceless. Hill backed him into a corner and landed punches at will to the head and body of the exhausted challenger and referee Roberto Ramirez stopped the fight at 1:29 of the 11th round of the scheduled 12-rounders.

"I think he anticipated me to run more than I did," said Hill who aggravated a hand injury and suffered a cut over the left eye from a seemingly unintentional head butt in the eighth round that did not slow him down.

"There were a couple of rounds that were very close," said Hill, "I think he was a little surprised by the power in my left hand."

Emebe refused to discuss retirement after the bout.

Evert snatches Eckerd Open tennis final

LARGO, Florida (AP) — Facing her toughest challenge of the week, top seed Chris Evert fought off unseeded Arantxa Sanchez 7-6 (7-3), 6-4 Sunday to win her second consecutive \$200,000 Eckerd Open.

The one-hour, 49-minute match gave Evert of Boca Raton her first tournament title of the year and earned her \$40,000. She won the 32-player event without conceding a set for the second year in a row.

Sanchez, a 16-year-old from Barcelona, Spain, won a spot in the final by defeating unseeded Patricia Tarabini of Argentina 6-2, 6-2 in a semifinal match rained out Saturday and resumed Sunday morning.

In the final set for the championship, Evert jumped to a 5-2 lead before Sanchez made one last charge, holding serve then and breaking Evert to close to 5-4. Evert stayed firm, breaking Sanchez in the final game to win the set and the match.

NBA STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Standings of National Basketball Association (NBA) teams after Sunday's games:

| Eastern Conference | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Atlantic Division | | | | |
| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Y-Boston Celtics | 52 | 21 | .712 | — |
| Philadelphia 76ers | 32 | 39 | .451 | 19 |
| New York Knicks | 32 | 40 | .444 | 19½ |
| Washington Bullets | 32 | 39 | .451 | 19 |
| New Jersey Nets | 18 | 54 | .250 | 34 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| X-Detroit Pistons | 46 | 25 | .648 | — |
| X-Atlanta Hawks | 45 | 26 | .634 | 1 |
| X-Chicago Bulls | 43 | 29 | .597 | 3½ |
| Milwaukee Bucks | 39 | 31 | .557 | 6½ |
| Cleveland Cavaliers | 34 | 38 | .472 | 12½ |
| Indiana Pacers | 33 | 38 | .465 | 13 |
| Western Conference | | | | |
| Midwest Division | | | | |
| X-Dallas Mavericks | 46 | 25 | .648 | — |
| X-Denver Nuggets | 46 | 26 | .638 | ½ |
| X-Houston Rockets | 41 | 29 | .586 | 4½ |
| X-Utah Jazz | 39 | 31 | .557 | 6½ |
| San Antonio Spurs | 27 | 44 | .380 | 19 |
| Sacramento Kings | 20 | 51 | .282 | 26 |
| Pacific Division | | | | |
| X-Los Angeles Lakers | 54 | 16 | .771 | — |
| X-Portland Trail Blazers | 44 | 26 | .629 | 10 |
| X-Seattle SuperSonics | 37 | 33 | .529 | 16 |
| Phoenix Suns | 23 | 46 | .333 | 30½ |
| Golden State Warriors | 17 | 53 | .243 | 37 |
| Los Angeles Clippers | 15 | 55 | .214 | 39 |
| X-Clinched playoff berth | | | | |
| Y-Clinched division title | | | | |

NHL STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Final standings of National Hockey League (NHL) teams after Sunday's games:

| Wales Conference | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Patrick Division | | | | | | |
| | W | L | T | Pts | GF | GA |
| X-New York Islanders | 39 | 31 | 10 | 88 | 308 | 267 |
| Y-Washington Capitals | 38 | 33 | 9 | 85 | 281 | 249 |
| Y-Philadelphia Flyers | 38 | 33 | 9 | 85 | 292 | 293 |
| Y-New Jersey Devils | 38 | 36 | 6 | 82 | 293 | 296 |
| New York Rangers | 36 | 34 | 10 | 82 | 300 | 285 |
| Pittsburgh Penguins | 36 | 35 | 9 | 81 | 319 | 316 |
| Adams Division | | | | | | |
| X-Montreal Canadiens | 45 | 22 | 13 | 103 | 298 | 238 |
| Y-Boston Bruins | 44 | 30 | 6 | 94 | 300 | 251 |
| Y-Buffalo Sabres | 37 | 32 | 11 | 87 | 285 | 305 |
| Y-Hartford Whalers | 35 | 38 | 7 | 77 | 249 | 267 |
| Quebec Nordiques | 32 | 43 | 5 | 69 | 271 | 306 |
| Campbell Conference | | | | | | |
| Norris Division | | | | | | |
| X-Detroit Red Wings | 41 | 28 | 10 | 93 | 322 | 269 |
| Y-St. Louis Blues | 34 | 38 | 8 | 76 | 278 | 294 |
| Y-Chicago Black Hawks | 30 | 41 | 9 | 69 | 284 | 328 |
| Y-Toronto Maple Leafs | 21 | 49 | 10 | 52 | 273 | 345 |
| Minnesota North Stars | 19 | 48 | 13 | 51 | 242 | 349 |
| Smythe Division | | | | | | |
| X-Calgary Flames | 48 | 23 | 9 | 105 | 397 | 305 |
| Y-Edmonton Oilers | 44 | 25 | 11 | 99 | 363 | 288 |
| Y-Winnipeg Jets | 33 | 36 | 11 | 77 | 286 | 304 |
| Y-Los Angeles Kings | 30 | 42 | 8 | 68 | 318 | 359 |
| Vancouver Canucks | 25 | 46 | 9 | 59 | 272 | 320 |
| X-Clinched division title | | | | | | |
| Y-Clinched playoff berth | | | | | | |

Biasion wins Safari Rally

NAIROBI (R) — Lancia-driver Miki Biasion took over as World Championship leader Monday when he won the Safari Rally, the first Italian victory in the 36 years of the rugged endurance test.

Biasion, who lost 13 minutes in Monday's final stage, finished with a total time loss of two hours 51 minutes four seconds.

He held off a strong challenge from Kenyan Mike Kirkland, in a Nissan, who lost 3:03:57 and third-placed Per Eklund of Sweden, also in a Nissan, whose penalties totalled 3:38:26.

"This is the most important victory of my career and also the hardest," said Biasion, whose win lifted him 10 points clear of fellow-Italian Alessandro Fiorio at the top of the standings.

Desperate attempt

Kirkland made a desperate bid to overhaul Biasion Monday, continuing to drive despite severe damage to the front-end suspension of his car.

"I couldn't hold the car on the road because it was bouncing all over the place," said the 40-year-old former Kenyan champion after Monday's 510-kilometre (315-mile) stage through the dusty rift valley.

"Every time we took one minute off him (Biasion) we'd get a puncture and lose two (minutes)," Kirkland said.

Kirkland's Nissan teammate Eklund, plagued by punctures on the last leg, held onto third place.

Kenneth Eriksson, driving a Toyota Supra, finished fourth. It was the first time the 31-year-old Swede had finished the Safari Rally.

Defending world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland, who led the rally Saturday, finished fifth with a time loss of four hours 16 minutes 22 seconds.

Only 14 of the 54 cars that left

the ramp Thursday made it over the finishing line compared with 23 cars last year.

First stretch

On Thursday's first stretch from Nairobi to the Indian Ocean port of Mombasa, West Germany's Erwin Weber took an early lead, despite exhaust pipe problems with his Volkswagen Golf GTI.

But on the dash back to Nairobi Friday, Lancia team-mates Biasion and Kenyan Vic Preston junior overtook Weber when a broken drive-shaft cost the West German the lead.

By the time the cars returned to the capital, Eriksson had moved up to equal first with Kirkland, Biasion having spent 30 minutes fitting a new turbo system and suffering gearbox problems.

Weber retired when his Volkswagen collided with a Lancia service vehicle Saturday and other casualties included defending champion Hannu Mikkola of Finland and Lars Erik Torph of Sweden.

Unluckily for the four-wheel drive Subaru, there were no heavy rains to give them an advantage over the more powerful Toyotas and Nissans and only a light shower fell Friday.

FINAL PLACINGS

Final placings of the 14 cars that finished the Safari Rally Monday:

1. Miki Biasion (Italy) Lancia Delta, total time loss 2 hours 51 mins 4
2. Mike Kirkland (Kenya) Nissan 200SX, 03:03:57
3. Per Eklund (Sweden) Nissan 200SX, 03:38:26
4. Kenneth Eriksson (Sweden) Toyota Supra, 04:53:46
5. Juha Kankkunen (Finland) Toyota Supra, 04:16:22
6. Ian Duncan (Kenya) Subaru 4wd Turbo, 04:28:34
7. Bjorn Waldegard (Sweden) Toyota Supra, 04:29:31
8. Rudolf Stohl (Austria) Audi Quattro, 04:50:09
9. Possum Bourne (New Zealand) Subaru 4wd Turbo, 07:23:50
10. Jim Heather Hayes (Kenya) Nissan March Turbo, 09:25:42
11. Patrick Njiru (Kenya) Subaru 4wd, 12:01:23
12. Manjit Gharia (Kenya) Daihatsu Charade G100, 12:39:05
13. Joern Fitter (West Germany) Volkswagen Golf GTI, 14:25:20
14. Ramesh Khoda (Kenya) Subaru 4wd, 17:29:58

In dearth of baseball catchers, one club manufactures its own

NEW YORK (AP) — Hey, Yogi where did all those great catchers go? "I don't know. Sure seemed like we had a lot of good ones when I played," Berra said with a shrug. "Nobody wants to catch anymore."

No kidding. Try to get someone decent to do it. There aren't many good ones in the majors and even fewer in the minors.

We're not talking about finding another Johnny Bench or Bill Dickey. Just a guy to hit .270 and throw out a runner once in a while.

It's already the weakest position in baseball and it's getting worse.

"I'll tell you how bad it is," New York Mets general manager Frank Cashen said. "There are no catchers. And I'm so convinced of that, we're at the point where we're trying to manufacture a catcher. We're taking a good, young strong athlete in the minor leagues and teaching him to catch."

Whether the Mets' project with Darren Reed, a former top outfield prospect with the New York Yankees, ever works out remains to be seen. The Mets already lost one catching candidate this spring when Phil Lombardi developed a mental block about tossing the ball accurately back to the pitcher.

Gary Carter didn't want to catch as a kid. He was an infielder and pitcher in high school and was drafted by Montreal as an outfielder. In the minors, the Expos made him a catcher.

"I don't blame people for not wanting to catch," said Carter, a perennial all-star at the position. "You're going to get hit with foul tips, break your fingers and be in collisions at home plate."

"It's going to cut down on longevity, no doubt." Carter is among a rare breed these days of durable catchers. Lance Parrish and Tony Pena are also considered good, but consider this: None hit above .245 and none had much luck in preventing stolen bases. Few catchers in the National League stopped steals — 71 per cent of runners were successful, compared to 69 per cent in the American League.

Best; business

And they're regarded as among the best in the business. So is Rich Gedman, who wanted \$1 million last season, and he batted .205.

There are some good ones. Benito Santiago of San Diego batted .300 with 18 home runs, plus a 34-game hitting streak, and was the NL rookie of the year. Pittsburgh's Mike Lavalliere hit .300 and won the gold glove. Baltimore's Terry Kennedy became an all-star catcher in both leagues.

Matt Nokes hit 32 homers as a rookie with Detroit. Oakland's Terry Steinbach hit .284 with homers in his first year and Milwaukee has Bill Schroeder (.332, 14 home runs) and B.J. Surhoff (.299).

But they are few and far between.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"It's Jell-O with grape seeds. Our friends aren't classy enough to know it's not real caviar."

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OCTIX

ENGOM

NUCCOR

OOTARR



WHAT THE COUNTESS SAID HER HUSBAND WAS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

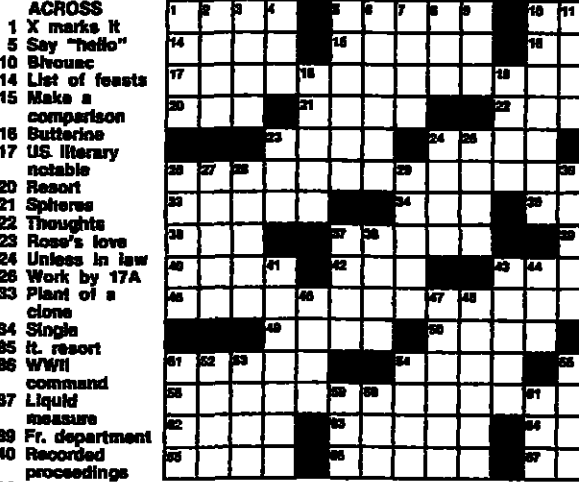
Answer: A "FOOL"

Saturday's Jumbles: BLAZE AMFUL LETHAL FROTHY
Answer: Whatever he claimed to "stand for," his audience wouldn't do this—"FALL FOR"

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword

by Frank R. Jackson



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1 Lily plant | 11 Tree's skin | 21 Musical work |
| 2 Tableland | 12 Fr. river | 22 Division word |
| 3 Uterus | 13 Fr. river | 23 Musical work |
| 4 Sports group | 14 Fr. river | 24 Division word |
| 5 Couple | 15 Fr. river | 25 Musical work |
| 6 Work by 17A | 16 Fr. river | 26 Division word |
| 7 Leaf | 17 Fr. river | 27 Musical work |
| 8 Type face | 18 Fr. river | 28 Division word |
| 9 Eastern VIP | 19 Fr. river | 29 Musical work |
| 10 Lag joint | 20 Fr. river | 30 Division word |
| 11 Accusative | 21 Fr. river | 31 Musical work |
| 12 Gale affair | 22 Fr. river | 32 Division word |
| 13 Single | 23 Fr. river | 33 Musical work |
| 14 Report | 24 Fr. river | 34 Division word |
| 15 WWI command | 25 Fr. river | 35 Musical work |
| 16 Liquid measure | 26 Fr. river | 36 Division word |
| 17 Fr. department | 27 Fr. river | 37 Musical work |
| 18 Recorded proceedings | 28 Fr. river | 38 Division word |
| 19 — and outs | 29 Fr. river | 39 Musical work |
| 20 Work by 17A | 30 Fr. river | 40 Division word |
| 21 Crayon | 31 Fr. river | 41 Musical work |
| 22 | 32 Fr. river | 42 Division word |
| 23 | 33 Fr. river | 43 Musical work |
| 24 | 34 Fr. river | 44 Division word |
| 25 | 35 Fr. river | 45 Musical work |
| 26 | 36 Fr. river | 46 Division word |
| 27 | 37 Fr. river | 47 Musical work |
| 28 | 38 Fr. river | 48 Division word |
| 29 | 39 Fr. river | 49 Musical work |
| 30 | 40 Fr. river | 50 Division word |
| 31 | 41 Fr. river | 51 Musical work |
| 32 | 42 Fr. river | 52 Division word |
| 33 | 43 Fr. river | 53 Musical work |
| 34 | 44 Fr. river | 54 Division word |
| 35 | 45 Fr. river | 55 Musical work |
| 36 | 46 Fr. river | 56 Division word |
| 37 | 47 Fr. river | 57 Musical work |

Peanuts



FOR "SHOW AND TELL" TODAY, I HAVE BROUGHT MY NEW "PRAYING DOLL"

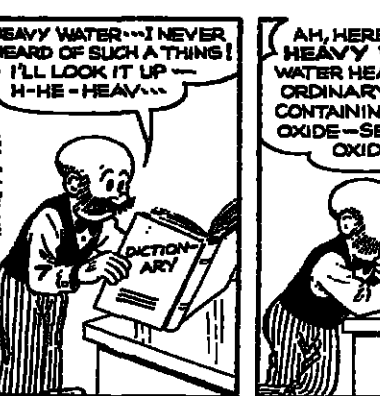


YOU WILL NOTE THAT HER HANDS ARE HELD TOGETHER IN A PRAYING POSITION BY VELCRO...ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

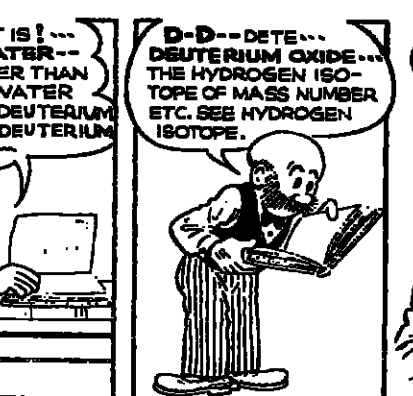


NO, I DO NOT BELIEVE VELCRO IS MENTIONED ANYWHERE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

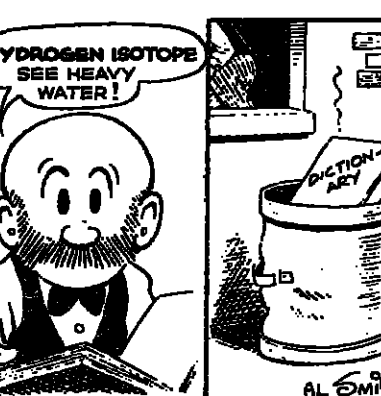
Mutt'n' Jeff



HEAVY WATER...I NEVER HEARD OF SUCH A THING! I'LL LOOK IT UP...H-HE-HEAVY



AH, HERE IT IS!...HEAVY WATER...WATER HEAVIER THAN ORDINARY WATER CONTAINING DEUTERIUM OXIDE—SEE DEUTERIUM OXIDE



D-D--DETE...DEUTERIUM OXIDE...THE HYDROGEN ISOTOPE OF MASS NUMBER ETC. SEE HYDROGEN ISOTOPE

Andy Capp

Raids Enrile home, announces 4 other escapes

Philippine military mounts massive hunt for Honasan

MANILA (R) — The Philippine military stretched a dragnet across the country Monday, seeking renegade Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan in a manhunt which brought new nervousness to Manila.

Troops widened their three-day-old search from north to south. But an army spokesman told reporters the elusive rebel leader, who evaded capture for months after an abortive coup last year, had again disappeared without trace after a daredevil escape from a prison ship Saturday.

"We have no concrete leads," Colonel Oscar Florendo told reporters. A spokesman for President Corazon Aquino and senior military figures joined several newspapers in playing down the threat posed by Honasan's escape. However, Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez called the rebel "a clear and present danger to our government."

Warning

Apparently preparing for resumption of the propaganda campaign waged through the media during his weeks on the run after his August coup attempt, Ordonez warned that newspapers and broadcasting stations would not be given the same latitude again. "It is my solemn duty to warn all radio and TV stations that the airing of interviews with Honasan will constitute positive violations of the permits under which they have been allowed to operate. That policy is now reiterated in the interest of the survival of our democratic institutions," he

said in a statement read personally over radio. "It is the duty of the government to crush all attempts to subvert or destroy it."

A leading Manila radio station, DZXL, said it was holding a taped, telephoned statement from the renegade officer but would not broadcast it or release it in line with the justice department's ruling.

The only comment by the rebel leader so far made public was a note left to the captain of the prison ship from which he escaped with the help of several of his guards.

"Please explain to your officers and men... that the struggle for a better armed forces of the Philippines must go on. Thank you for everything. God bless us all," said the note, signed with his nickname "Gringo."

Escapes, raid

Also Monday, the Philippine military revealed that four more soldiers held for plotting the overthrow of Aquino had escaped from custody.

The announcement came after assault troops raided a holiday home of former defence minister Juan Ponce Enrile in the hunt for Honasan.

A spokesman said two captains, a lieutenant and a sergeant had escaped from custody in the past two weeks but gave no dates. Other military sources said two

escaped Saturday and the other two a week earlier.

Two of the fugitives were involved in last August's coup attempt led by Honasan which was defeated only after bloody street fighting that left 53 people dead in Manila.

The other two had joined an earlier mutiny by troops loyal to deposed president Ferdinand Marcos.

Army assault teams found no trace of Honasan when they raided Enrile's beach house in Batangas province near Manila early Sunday.

Enrile, now opposition leader in the Senate, denounced the raid as illegal, saying the soldiers had no search warrant. He denied any part in the escape of his former security chief.

"They can arrest me... They can shoot me if they want to," Enrile said in a radio interview.

"RAM lives"

Late Sunday, anonymous leaflets bearing a picture of Honasan were circulated in a Manila church, calling on Aquino to step down.

Signed "The Filipino Soldier," the leaflet accused Aquino of tolerating corruption in her government and denounced her "self-righteous and perverted concept of democracy."

"RAM lives," it said, referring to the Reform the Armed Forces Movement, an army faction founded by Honasan and other young army officers that senior commanders had ordered disbanded.

The Manila Daily Globe newspaper cautioned against public hysteria over the Honasan

escape, saying "the stability of the government does not hang upon his capture."

"His escape restores some of (Honasan's) aura but it hardly builds overnight an army of mutinous soldiers around him. In all likelihood, he is destined for the life of a fugitive with an angry (military) in hot pursuit."

Enrile, a close political ally of Honasan, laughed at military claims that the rebel colonel bribed guards to help him with his escape.

"The truth is that many of these (soldiers) are already fed up," he said.

Enrile denied he had anything to do with Honasan's escape.

Distraction

Honasan's night escape, only days before he was to appear before a court martial, distracted official attention in Manila from major talks due to start Tuesday on the future of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

A panel of Philippine officials led by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus met late Monday in Manila to set the final touches on a strategy which most analysts expect to have significant long-term effect on the relationship between the Philippines and its former colonial power.

The immediate issue is how much Washington pays for using Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base for the last two years of a 25-year agreement expiring in 1991.

A more far-reaching question, ever-present but not formally on the agenda, is whether Manila will allow the bases to stay on once the deadline is reached.

IRA says no cease-fire

BELFAST (AP) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) dashed any hopes of a cease-fire in its war against British rule in Northern Ireland as the annual marching season got under way.

The IRA also said it will continue to attack British security forces. The intentions were expressed in a statement read aloud at one of a dozen marches by Roman Catholics Sunday commemorating the 1916 Easter rising against British rule in what is now the Republic of Ireland.

Protestants launch their marching season Monday when the fiercely pro-British Apprentice Boys commemorate Protestant resistance to the 1689 siege of Londonderry ordered by Catholic King James II.

Austin Currie, a prominent leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP), expressed hope Sunday that talks between his moderate Catholic party and Sinn Fein, the legal political wing of the outlawed IRA, would lead to "a permanent end of military and violent activity."

In an Irish radio interview, Currie said draft documents were exchanged at the March 23 Sinn

Fein-SDLP meeting which could lead to a round-table conference that would also include Protestant parties and the Irish government.

"The war will go on"

But Martin McGuinness, vice president of Sinn Fein, told a 5,000-strong crowd at Milltown Cemetery in Belfast that cease-fires weren't even discussed at the talks.

"The IRA position on cease-fires has been on record for a long time: no more cease-fires," he said. "...talk (can) take place but the war will go on."

Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams told 1,500 people at a march in Londonderry, the province's second-largest city, that the talks with the SDLP "are about exploring whether there can be an agreement in principle to an overall strategy for justice and peace." But he said the two parties were poles apart.

Both Adams and McGuinness said they strongly opposed any solution to the nearly 20 years of sectarian strife in Northern Ireland based on self-government for the province. The only solution, they insisted, is for Britain

to pull out of the province where Protestants outnumber Catholics by 3-2.

In the Creggan area of Londonderry, security forces defused a bomb which the IRA said it planted but decided not to detonate when an army patrol passed because children were in the area.

Milltown revisited

The Sinn Fein march through west Belfast was led and tailed by armoured police land rovers with soldiers riding shotgun, their rifles cocked. Police followed the marchers into Milltown Cemetery and encircled them, with a number of soldiers hiding behind tombstones.

The Milltown Cemetery took place about 25 metres from the spot where a Protestant extremist killed three people at an unpoliced IRA funeral on March 16.

The no-policing policy ended after two British soldiers who drove into an IRA funeral on March 19 were dragged from their car, stripped and killed by the IRA.

Blasts rock U.S. centre in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — Explosions and a fire struck the American centre in central New Delhi Monday a few hours after U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci arrived for talks with Indian officials.

A U.S. embassy spokesman said there were three explosions and an eyewitness told Reuters "a major fire" was burning in the modern glass-sheathed building that houses a library and the U.S. Information Service.

Carlucci arrived in the Indian capital earlier for talks expected to focus on Afghanistan and technological cooperation.

Delhi police logged the explosions at about 4 p.m. (1000 GMT). Police would not comment on the cause of the blasts.

But the embassy spokesman said he did not believe the explosions were connected with Carlucci's visit and said the fire could have started in the electrical system on the fifth floor and spread to the rest of the building.

There were about 200 employees in the building at the time, he said.

The centre is located about five kilometres from the main U.S. embassy complex in New Delhi's heavily guarded diplomatic enclave.

The centre, near the capital's most popular shopping area, has often been a target for anti-American demonstrations. In recent weeks, security has been tightened and a more secure entrance constructed.

Democrats vie for crucial primary votes

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (R) — Michael Dukakis mounted an all-out effort Monday to beat Jesse Jackson in Tuesday's important Wisconsin primary and recharge his sputtering drive for the U.S. Democratic presidential nomination.

The Massachusetts governor mapped a dawn-to-dusk campaign to prove he can win a large northern industrial state outside his native New England.

A big victory by Jackson in Wisconsin could strip Dukakis' slight national lead in nominating delegates and hobble his campaign before the major April 19 primary in New York.

Jackson returned to Wisconsin for an 11th-hour campaign tour after breaking away for two days to seek votes in Colorado, which holds its presidential preference caucuses Monday.

The contest in Wisconsin, an industrial and dairyland state where Dukakis holds a narrow lead in polls over Jackson for its 81 presidential nominating delegates, is more significant.

It will test whether Dukakis can win blue-collar workers, a group considered vital if the Democrats are to recapture the presidency from the Republicans.

Vice-President George Bush is the certain winner for the Republican presidential nomination since Senator Robert Dole, his main competitor, pulled out last week.

In Wisconsin, Dukakis leads Jackson by 43 to 35 per cent in a poll published by the Milwaukee Journal Sunday.

Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, who has not done well since the southern-dominated super Tuesday races on March 8, finished a distant third in the poll with 15 per cent.

Among Republicans, the poll showed Bush sweeping 80 per cent of the voters surveyed compared to seven per cent for the last remaining Bush rival, TV evangelist Pat Robertson.

A Robertson aide told Reuters the former evangelist expects Bush to wrap up the nomination by mid-April.

Aborigine leader seeks support from Libya

HOBART, Australia (AP) — Controversial aboriginal activist Michael Mansell said Monday he will head a 12-member delegation to Libya next week to seek trade sanctions against Australia to protest its treatment of aborigines.

Mansell caused an uproar last year after returning from Tripoli and saying he discussed ways for

Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi to bankroll a black revolution in Australia aimed at creating a separate aboriginal state.

He told a radio interviewer Monday that the group wants Libya to halt the import of live sheep from Australia, a 30-million dollar (U.S. \$20 million) industry.

Panama denies harassment of U.S. envoy

PANAMA CITY (R) — Panama denied Monday that military police were harassing U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis when a police van chased his car and tried to make it pull over.

A Panamanian Foreign Ministry statement said a police sergeant decided to follow the ambassador when he saw an "exaggerated display of automatic arms carried by men in civilian dress in the three cars accompanying ... Davis."

The U.S. embassy earlier classified as "serious" the incident Sunday in which a police van of the Panamanian Defence Forces (PDF) followed Davis with its lights flashing and sirens howling for 3 kilometres from the Vatican mission to Davis's residence.

The ambassador was returning from an Easter morning call on the Vatican mission, a U.S. embassy official said.

He said the police van was waiting for Davis outside the Vatican mission. The Foreign Ministry said the incident was "strictly a police reaction within sovereign Panamanian territory."

Asked if the embassy planned to take any action, the U.S. official said: "If you don't recognise the government it's hard to protest."

Washington considers as president Eric Arturo Delvalle, who was deposed after trying to fire military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega on Feb. 25.

Delvalle was voted out of office by the military-dominated legislative assembly and replaced by Acting President Manuel Solis Palma.

In Washington, the State Department Monday accused the Panamanian army of harassing Davis and said the United States would take all steps necessary to protect Americans in Panama.

The department also reacted coolly to news that Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson had been in contact with Noriega and had offered to help ease tensions between the two countries.

In a letter to Jackson released by the candidate's campaign staff Monday, Noriega asked the black civil rights leader to help end U.S. interference in his country.

"You can quickly do a lot to help, by eliminating one of the principal causes of the suffering of many Panamanians. In other words, the foreign intervention," Noriega said in his letter.

Jackson, campaigning in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, said he favoured Noriega's ouster and appealed him to quit.

China sets demands for Dalai Lama's return

PEKING (R) — The Panchen Lama, Tibet's second highest spiritual leader, said Monday China would allow his superior, the Dalai Lama, to return and live in his homeland if he gave up his idea of Tibetan independence.

China has previously said the Dalai Lama would have to reside in Peking, not in Lhasa, the Tibetan capital.

Speaking at a rare news conference which was televised live in China, the Panchen Lama also revealed that five people died as a result of rioting on March 5 in which several thousand Tibetans, led by more than 100 Buddhist monks, clashed with police.

Police opened fire in self-defence and two people were shot dead, he said.

The Panchen Lama, who holds a senior post in the Chinese government and lives in Peking, said police also beat monks with clubs during their attempts to rescue local leaders whose lives were threatened by rioting separatists.

"Splittist" activities

Dressed in brown robes and speaking in a deep, booming voice, the Panchen Lama said there was one sole condition set by China for the return of the Dalai Lama, who fled to India in 1959 after a failed anti-Chinese uprising.

He said the Dalai Lama would have to give up the idea of Tibetan independence "and refrain from engaging in any activities aimed at splitting the motherland."

The Panchen Lama described his superior as a "good religious friend" and said he would be allowed to live in Tibet if he

returned.

The Chinese constitution, which gave people the right to choose their place of residence, meant the Dalai Lama could live in Peking or Tibet, the Panchen Lama said.

He spoke during the news conference in Tibetan. His remarks were translated by one interpreter into Chinese and then by another into English.

China would not tolerate the Dalai Lama returning and continuing his "splittist" activities, the Panchen Lama said.

But if he did return he would be given the same office as the Panchen Lama — vice chairman of China's parliament, the National People's Congress.

In recent statements, the Dalai Lama has stopped short of demanding total independence for Tibet but has called on China to remove its hundreds of thousands of troops from the region which borders Tibet.

Conflicting accounts

The Panchen Lama's account of last month's rioting in Tibet conflicted with accounts in China's official media which reported that one policeman died.

The Panchen Lama said that in addition to the policeman, two civilians were shot dead by police by mistake, a monk was killed by stones thrown by rioters and one person died later in hospital from injuries. The hospital death apparently was not included last week when the Panchen Lama said four people had died.

Tibetans in Lhasa have spoken up to 20 people being killed, including many monks who died when police stormed the Jokhang

Temple, the centre of Tibetan Buddhism.

Western reporters have been barred from visiting the remote region but a few tourists have been allowed in since last month.

The killers of the young policeman would be executed if a court found them guilty of murder, Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, a senior Tibetan official, told the news conference.

The Panchen Lama said more than 330 policemen and soldiers were injured in the fighting and 110 civilians sought medical help for their injuries.

If translated correctly, it was the first official confirmation that the army had been used to quell the disturbances which continued into the next morning.

Police detained more than 200 people after the rioting and most were released later, he said. Tibetans in Lhasa have spoken of up to 2,000 people arrested, many at night.

Dalai Lama in London

The 52-year-old Dalai Lama was due to arrive in Britain Monday for a visit which he has described as "purely religious and humanitarian in nature."

He is scheduled to address a "global forum on human survival" at Oxford University.

A British official in India said Tibetan spokesmen had given undertakings that the Dalai Lama would not engage in political activities in Britain.

In a recent letter to Reuters in New Delhi, the Dalai Lama wrote: "The people of Tibet do not want to live under the yoke of Chinese rule. They want freedom and justice. They want to live in dignity."

Egyptians told to eat less sugar

By Fouad Gawhari
Reuters

CAIRO — The Egyptian government is telling a nation of sugar-lovers: Eat Less.

It is not unusual to see an Egyptian heap five or seven sugar lumps in a cup of coffee. Some admit to as many as 10.

Egypt's 52 million people chomp through an annual 33 kilograms (73 pounds) each on average, compared with Turks' 24 kg. (53 lb.) and Indians' 10 kg. (22 lb.), according to official figures. Half Egypt's sugar is imported.

Together with cheap, subsidised bread, it makes for a nation whose typical physique is bulky.

"The problem is too much bread and sugar," nutritionist Muhammad Amr Hussein told Reuters, noting bread was sacred to ancient Egyptians.

He estimates starch — mainly bread — and sugar make up 70 to

75 per cent of the average Egyptian's diet.

And nutritionists say these are the main sources of obesity in the Third World, whereas fats are the main culprits in industrialised nations.

Bad health certificate

Trying to thin the nation down, authorities are taking up a theme familiar in many other countries — eat less and stay healthy, and eat the right food.

"You are signing your bad health certificate," warns a television advertisement showing a fat Egyptian devouring a huge cake and washing it down with several cups of sugar-thick tea.

The campaign has coincided with shortages of sugar that could, ironically, make it less effective.

When the shortages occurred in February, forcing people to buy on the black market if at all, an air of national crisis prevailed. The shortages provoked an out-

cry in parliament. Supply Minister Galal Abul Dahad offered to resign, and said that the country simply ate too much sugar.

Officials never linked the shortages to the health campaign, but many people ridiculed the "Eat Less" advertisements as an official ploy to cover up failure to provide supplies.

Walk it off

Fawzy Al Shobaky, a nutritionist with the National Research Centre, blames the national tendency to overweight on the delicacies of the country's cuisine and lack of exercise.

He reckons Egyptians consume 25 to 30 per cent more calories than they need.

"I am not against delicious food, but without excess. Many recipes contain a lot of butter and are overcooked," he said, adding: "Most people here don't even bother to go for a walk after a heavy meal."

India could overtake China in population

By Randolph E. Schmid
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — India could surpass China as the world's most populous nation in the not too distant future, the U.S. Census Bureau said Sunday.

China has long been the world's most heavily populated nation and now is home to about one-fifth of the earth's people.

But, "the time is now foreseeable when India will take over the No. 1 spot, reflecting a population growth rate that is nearly twice as high as China's," the bureau reported.

"The latest projections suggest that India's population may surpass China's in less than 60 years, or before today's youngsters in both countries reach old age," the bureau said in its new "World Population Profile: 1987."

Now has 1,088,169,000 people, compared with India's 816,828,000.

But India has a birth rate of 32 per 1,000 people, compared with just 20 per 1,000 in China, which has conducted an intensive birth-control campaign in recent years.

Subtracting deaths, India's population is growing by 2.1 per cent annually, China's by only 1.3 per cent, the bureau reported.

Thus, population projections for the year 2050 show India as the world's most populated country, with an anticipated 1,591,204,000 people. At the same time, China would have a population of 1,554,875,000.

Sharp changes

Sharp changes are expected in other nations too, the report says.

Here is a rundown of the 20 most populous nations today, and those that the U.S. Census Bureau expects to hold those rankings in the year 2050. Populations are in millions.

| 1988 | 2050 |
|-----------------|-------|
| China | 1,088 |
| India | 817 |
| The USSR | 286 |
| The U.S. | 246 |
| Indonesia | 184 |
| Brazil | 151 |
| Japan | 123 |
| Nigeria | 112 |
| Bangladesh | 110 |
| Pakistan | 107 |
| Mexico | 84 |
| Vietnam | 65 |
| The Philippines | 63 |
| W. Germany | 61 |
| Italy | 57 |
| Britain | 57 |
| France | 56 |
| Thailand | 55 |
| Turkey | 54 |
| Egypt | 53 |
| India | 1,591 |
| China | 1,555 |
| Nigeria | 471 |
| Pakistan | 424 |
| The USSR | 386 |
| Brazil | 368 |
| Indonesia | 360 |
| The U.S. | 299 |
| Bangladesh | 266 |
| Iran | 252 |
| Ethiopia | 243 |
| The Philippines | 204 |
| Mexico | 169 |
| Vietnam | 166 |
| Kenya | 166 |
| Zaire | 158 |
| Egypt | 142 |
| Tanzania | 133 |
| Turkey | 120 |
| Japan | 115 |

The Soviet Union, now ranked third in population, is expected to drop to No. 5 by the year 2050. Fourth-place United States would slip to eighth, while No. 5 Indonesia would drop to seventh.

Expected to become third by 2050 is Nigeria, currently ranked 13th. Pakistan, now No. 14, is expected to rise to fourth.

Other findings contained in the new report include:

— World population, which recently passed the five billion mark, is expected to reach 10 billion by 2040.

— More than half of the world's population lives in Asia.

— The death rate in developing countries is falling and is expected to dip below that of more developed nations, which have generally older populations and thus higher overall death rates.

— With the decrease in mortality, the population of sub-Saharan Africa could grow at 3.1 per cent annually for the rest of the century, twice as fast as the rest of the world.

— Contraceptive use has been rising, but the level varies widely by country.

— Infants born in Switzerland, Hong Kong and Japan can anticipate a lifespan of 78 years; more than double the 38 years for youngsters born in Chad.



No thanks

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corazon Aquino has ruled out the idea of remarrying, saying she is content with her life and wary of the risks involved in tying the knot a second time. "I think I am happy enough the way I am. As you know ... I am not really a gambler," she said in answer to a caller's question on a weekly radio broadcast Sunday night. The 55-year-old widow was catapulted to power in 1986 almost three years after her husband, opposition leader Benigno Aquino, was shot dead at Manila airport. "I am already fortunate enough to have had a happy marriage. I do not want to try again... My life right now is okay," she said. Aquino, who once described her husband as a male chauvinist who would never have believed she would one day become president, added: "I am independent and I do not have to take any orders from anybody."

No comment

PEKING (R) — A line of girls dressed only in their underwear is driven down a street in China, their names and prices marked on their backs. They are quickly surrounded by a large crowd of traders called for buyers. Chinese village women are increasingly being bought and sold in a very lucrative trade, an official newspaper reported. The Wenzi newspaper said Sunday the trade had surged in recent years, with 323 women sold in Sichuan province in 1986 and 132 in one county in Hubei province in 1986 and 1987. One 19-year-old girl from Hunan in South China was sold as a "common wife" to four brothers between 30 and